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Official Organ of the
**AMERICAN NATIONAL LIVE STOCK
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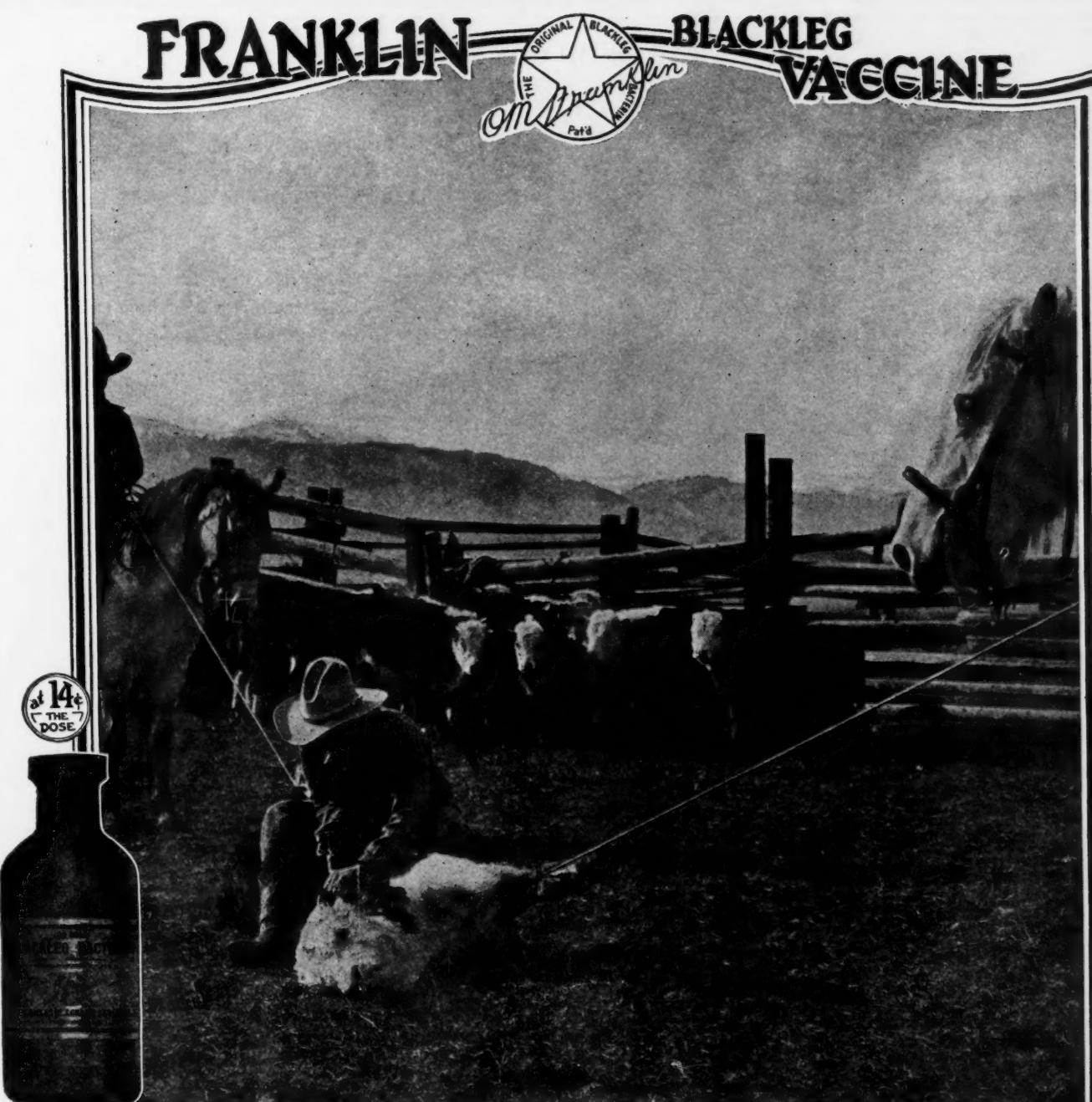
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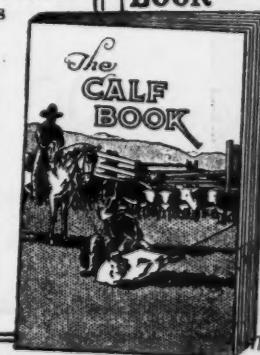
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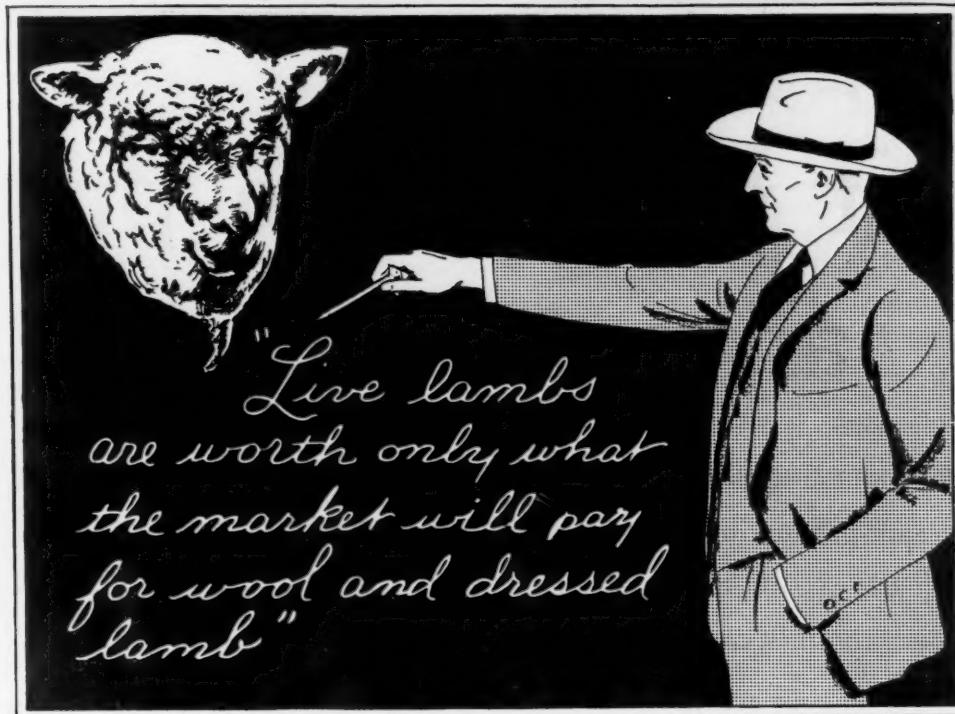
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lambs were 3 per cent heavier. This describes the supply situation.

Because of greater supplies and lessened consumer buying power, government figures show that live lamb prices in March dropped \$5.95 a hundred weight under 1929. A drop of \$3.79 a hundred weight (live basis) in dressed lamb and \$2.01 a hundred weight (live basis) in wool, accounts for most of this. Other by-product prices also are lower.

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THE PRODUCER

THE NATIONAL LIVE STOCK MONTHLY

Volume XII

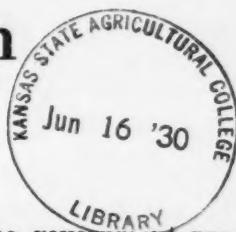
DENVER, COLORADO, JUNE, 1930

Number 1

Live Stock and Meat up North

BY AUBREY FULLERTON

Edmonton, Alberta, Canada



MORE FRESH MEAT FOR THE TOP PARTS of the continent has been, for a long time past, not only a public need, but something of a state problem. The United States government faced it some years ago in Alaska, and was fortunate enough to find a solution. Now Canada is grappling with a similar combination of circumstances in its far-flung Northland.

Live stock that will make beef or its equivalent is getting scarce in the sub-Arctic regions, largely because of continued overhunting of the native animals. There is more doing in the Far North than used to be, and with the country beginning to open up to trade and travel, to say nothing of the home consumption of Eskimos and Indians, there is greater need of meat than ever before. So it is that the Canadian government is making a serious effort to meet the situation by providing more beef-producers and conserving the supply already existing.

Protection for the Musk-Ox

A game sanctuary particularly for musk-oxen has been established in the valley of the Thelon River, east of Great Slave Lake, in the wide stretches of northern prairie generally, but somewhat unfairly, known as the "Barren Lands." There is an area of 15,000 square miles in the preserve, which has been closed tight against all forms of hunting. By recent order from Ottawa, no one, either white man or native, may enter it except by special permission. The reason is that within its bounds are the last herds of musk-oxen

on the Canadian mainland, and the government proposes to give them a chance for their life.

There are approximately only 250 head in these last remaining herds, and it is therefore evident that the point of extinction was almost in sight. It used to be that vast numbers of musk-oxen roamed the Farther North, but, largely by reason of the fact that it is their way to form in mass circles when alarmed or attacked, they have made easy killing, and the Eskimos and some white men have taken full advantage of this habit of the species. The result is that the animals have been nearly wiped out.

Now, musk-ox meat is the real Arctic beef. For ever so long the Top Country natives have very largely depended upon it for their food supply, and white men who have gone into the Arctics—for instance, the explorer Stefansson—have pronounced it a first-class article, as good as any on the market. When in prime condition, it is sweet, tender, and highly nourishing, but in the winter it carries a strong flavor of musk, which has given the animal its name. To the Eskimos the musk flavor is not at all objectionable, and even white folks in time get used to it.

Stefansson had a scheme, some fifteen years ago, to engage in musk-ox ranching on a large scale, to the end not only that the animals might be conserved, but that a new source of supply for fresh meat for both Canada and the United States might be developed. He made so good a case for it that the Dominion government set apart Southampton Island and two neighboring islands at the Arctic end of Hudson Bay

for the purpose. But, for some reason, the musk-oxen did not take to the idea, and the meat-shipping never materialized.

There are still considerable numbers of the animals on some of the Arctic islands, particularly on Devon, away to the north of Baffin Land, where a good-sized herd is rapidly growing, under protection;



MUSK-OXEN

but repeated searches on the continental mainland in the last few years gave hardly a glimpse of them, until the few small herds in the Barren Lands sanctuary were spotted. The government is hoping that, with the protection they are now to get, they will multiply.

An average male musk-ox is of about the size of a small domestic ox, thick-set, with a massive head and neck, short legs, twenty-five-inch horns, and only a couple of inches of tail. He wears fifteen pounds of just-as-good-as-sheep's wool, which forms a thick, cold-proof vest under a shaggy hair topcoat. In fact, the musk-ox is pretty nearly as much sheep as cattle—a zoölogical nondescript that gives both beef and wool, but is not anything of a beauty. He does not even get credit for his real name. Properly speaking, he is an "ovibos;" but no one ever thinks of calling him that.

The musk-ox herds, moving usually in bunches of twenty-five or thirty, and feeding upon grass, saxifrage plants, and dwarf willows, never come farther south than half-way down the coast of Hudson Bay, and they do not go west of the Mackenzie River. It was thought at one time that they might be introduced into Alaska, but to date they remain, as they have always been, denizens of the middle Arctic and sub-Arctic. Vast tracts of grass-strewn grazing grounds in the Barren Lands, of the sort that would make a southern rancher or stock-grower positively envious, make this a natural and admirable habitat for the beef-makers of the North. Nothing has to be done in the way of housing or feeding them, it is furthermore to be noted, for they are quite able to fend for themselves.

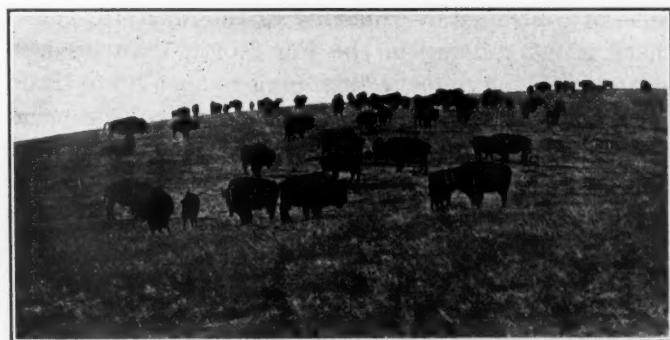
If this conservation experiment with musk-oxen turns out even half as well as the similar one that Canada has already made with buffaloes, there will be no danger of the species becoming extinct. The success achieved in the national animal park at Wainwright, Alberta, in saving the bison—one-time lord of the plains, but latterly reduced from millions to almost nothing—is now known to the world.

Buffaloes Multiplying Fast

The original herd purchased by the Dominion government from a Montana rancher twenty-three years ago has responded so nobly and prospered so greatly that it now numbers some 7,000 head. From it, too, over 6,000 animals have been removed during the past four years to the Wood Buffalo Park—a reserve of 17,000 square miles southwest of Great Slave Lake, where primeval wilderness conditions still prevail. There were 1,500 original wood buffaloes in this northern area, and with the new arrivals shipped in from Wainwright, and their increase, the present population of the park is approximately 10,000 head.

In the Wainwright park the point has been reached where, notwithstanding the removals since 1925, there now has to be an annual killing-off of surplus animals to keep the number down to the capacity of the 200-square-mile range. Last winter about 500 head were slaughtered, but it is expected that hereafter the surplus to be thus disposed of will be 1,000 per year. Thus not only has the bison been saved, but buffalo steaks and buffalo hides have been put on the market once more.

Fresh meat from these buffalo killings has been selling, not only in Alberta cities, but in many parts



BUFFALOES IN ANIMAL PARK, WAINWRIGHT, ALBERTA

of the prairie country, and has even been sent on special occasions to Toronto and Montreal. It has already ceased to be a novelty, and is now a regular item on the western Canadian bill-of-fare. Buffalo meat, in fact, has so fully re-established itself in popular favor that a market could be found for an even larger quantity each year.

One hundred carcasses of the older animals slaughtered this past season were reserved as a food

supply for needy Indians and Eskimos in the North. They were shipped to one of the Calgary packing plants and there made into pemmican—a time-honored article of diet that, by reason of being highly concentrated and nutritious, is admirably adapted to transportation and storage in the north country. From the animals in the Wood Buffalo Park, too, twenty or more bulls were picked for killing, and their flesh was frozen and used for the relief of short-rationed Indians, and for the provisioning of missions and schools farther north. The animals averaged about 1,000 pounds, dressed.

Breeding of Hybrids

Experimenting has been going on in the Wainwright park for several years past in the breeding of buffalo hybrids. From the cross-breeding of domestic



CATALOES IN WAINWRIGHT PARK

cows of the Hereford, Shorthorn, and Aberdeen-Angus breeds with buffalo bulls there have been developed "yak-buffaloes" or "cataloos," which are interesting and may ultimately be important members of animal society. The aim is to produce a breed that will combine the beef-making qualities of domestic cattle with the strong, weather-resisting qualities of the bison, thus giving a hardy meat stock that will stand up better under severe northern conditions. The cataloos are not yet fully proven, but they give promise.

Reindeer Being Introduced

A very noteworthy effort in the way of increasing and improving the meat supply of the Far North is that now being made, under Dominion government auspices, in the importation of domesticated reindeer. Last December 3,000 head of Alaskan reindeer, purchased by the government from the Lomen herds, were started on a long trek across the top of Alaska and Yukon to the delta of the Mackenzie River, which will not be reached until the spring of 1931. Corrals and buildings will meanwhile be erected for them on the east side of the river, and a great grazing preserve of 15,000 square miles, fronting up to the Arctic coast, will be at their disposal.

With ordinary good luck in both traveling and settling down, the reindeer immigrants are expected to double in number in three years, and, as the original herd increases, new herds will be established to the east, toward the Coppermine Gulf country, and south, in the country between Great Bear Lake and Hudson Bay. The area set apart for them in the Mackenzie delta has been carefully surveyed in advance, and is reported to be very like the best reindeer pasturage in Alaska, with plenty of forage and water for 250,000 head.

The experiment, which will have involved an initial expenditure of \$200,000 by the time the herd is delivered, is being made primarily in behalf of the Eskimos, for whose economic independence an assured meat supply is essential. There seems to be no good reason why reindeer may not do for the Arctic coast region much the same that they have already done for Alaska, where an original herd of 1,280 head has grown to 750,000 since 1891, and worked wonders the while in raising the level of native life. Like wonders are anticipated in the Canadian North, and the Eskimo population there will be given a real boon, not only in a new source of meat supply, but in a plentiful supply of hides to work with and in new carriers that will make a welcome change from dog-teams.

Still another phase of this animal-colonizing effort will have the southern part of the Northwest Territories for its scene of action. An area of forty miles square has been reserved along the Hudson Bay waterfront for the Dominion Reindeer Company, which has a project to move reindeer across from Alaska in much the same way as in the case of the Mackenzie delta herd. The Canadian Department of the Interior will give the company a lease of this area, if certain conditions are complied with, and will allow three years' time for the scheme to work out.

Caribou and Moose

In addition to the musk-oxen and buffaloes already in the north country, and the reindeer that it is hoped to settle there, certain other kinds of meat-producing animals, which are native to the region, must be taken into account. There is a large population of caribou still running at large through the Barren Lands and up to the edge of the Arctic seas, though the caribou, too, have suffered greatly from over-hunting. How they and the reindeer will get on together remains to be seen.

There are also numbers of moose, which form an item on the food list of the Indians farther south. Conservation measures for these animals, too, have been proposed, and one of the chamber of commerce organizations in the Peace River country is agitating the formation of a provincial park for the preservation of wild game and fur-bearers. Moose in par-

ticular have been reported as suffering this year, in some parts of the country, from a wood-tick epidemic, but a policy of protection might help them even in that.

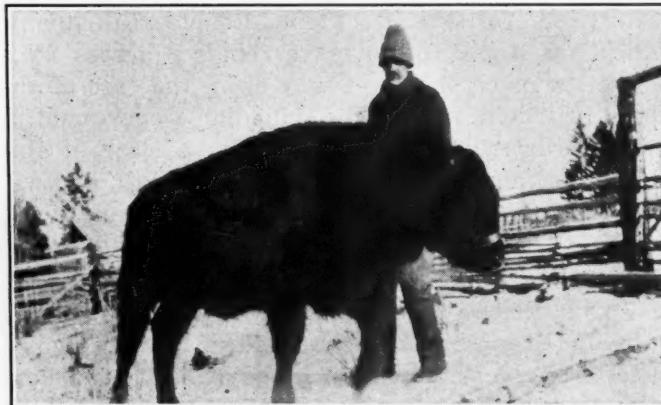
All in all, the importance of increased and permanent meat supplies in the Arctic and sub-Arctic parts of the continent is being fully recognized nowadays, and ways and means of insuring such supplies are in process. Some of the experiments now under way are among the most uniquely interesting efforts in animal colonization and conservation that have ever been made.

CATALO-BREEDING

BY L. C. WILSON
Colville, Washington

HAVING MADE EXTENSIVE INQUIRIES, AND READING all available literature on the subject, father and I decided to try our hands at the work of breeding cataloes. On March 9, 1926, we received at our ranch from the National Bison Range at Moise, Montana, a nine-month-old bison male calf. For the first two months the calf's ration included alfalfa hay and plenty of whole milk fresh from the cow, which was gradually changed to skim milk. How he did grow! Later, upon placing him in green pastures, he refused the milk.

Among questions asked us most frequently by visitors are: "Is the buffalo bull hard to handle? Is he mean?" At four and one-half years of age he has shown no inclination to break fences, and responds, though rather slowly, when we drop a loop over his head and lead him into the stanchion or chute. We often place him there to curry his heavy coat,

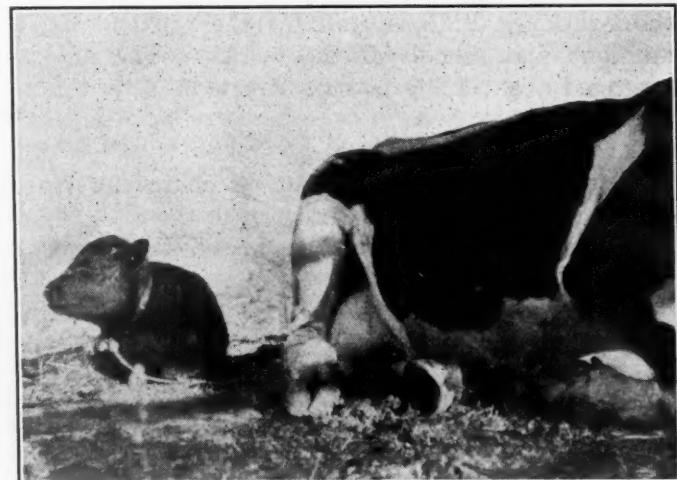


JUMBO—BORN FEBRUARY 8, 1929—ONLY MALE OFFSPRING OF BISON AND DOMESTIC COW
(Grandview Ranch, Colville, Washington)

especially when he is shedding. But let us take warning! Bison bulls, as well as bulls of all breeds, cannot always be trusted, although much gentleness can be instilled by good care and kindness.

"How much did you pay for the buffalo? What is your object in crossing the bison with dairy cows? Why not use cows of a heavy beef breed?" are other questions asked. The price paid the United States government was \$100. As to the latter two questions, others have for years used beef cows to breed to, experiencing much loss, due to cows dying while carrying male calves. We have, perhaps, the only cow to give birth to a male hybrid of the first cross, and live to nurse

and care for it. It is our belief that, by using specially selected Holstein cows, this death hazard to the mother can be eliminated. We do not think that death is caused by the hump on the calf's back, as many have supposed, since even on the male buffalo calf there is very little or no hump at all at birth. Nor did our hybrid calf, Jumbo, and the heifer born in November, 1929, have the slightest trace of a hump—only a thick and heavy neck. Jumbo weighed 99 pounds at birth; the heifer weighed 108 pounds. We have never seen such growthy calves.



HOLSTEIN COW AND HER HEIFER CALF FROM BISON BULL
BORN NOVEMBER 14, 1929

In Jumbo we believe there lies great possibility of fertility. People have been trying for 180 years to produce such an animal. At birth he was coal-black, later turning a shade of brown, even a tinge of red being noticeable. As his mother was half Shorthorn, we expected this to be his permanent color, but now, at eleven months of age, and in the middle of winter, he is very black. His hair is exceptionally long, being of more even length all over the hide than that of the buffalo. The mother of the heifer is a registered Holstein, in color more black than white, but her heifer has no spots at all, being coal-black at birth and turning a shade of brown at two months.

This work is indeed interesting. Between five and six hundred visitors were out to Grandview Ranch last month, admiring and commenting on Jumbo's great beauty and form. If he was off in the lower pasture, we had only to call, and he would soon be at the gate, standing close up for the visitors to rub and scratch his woolly head or feed him fresh alfalfa. Jeronomo, our full-blooded bison, is very interested in all that goes on about him, enjoying the company of the Holstein bulls and playing with them much of the time. He is kind to the other stock. Even the milk goat with her kids, and the old sow with her litter of pigs, share his pasture and feed-rack.

We look forward to the time when Mother Nature will place her stamp of approval on this breed, allowing us to overcome the great obstacles confronting catalo-breeding at present, and create a breed as far superior to the present-day beef as are the Angus, Shorthorn, and Hereford compared with the old-time Longhorn.

Canadian Meat Consumption

Per-capita consumption of meat in Canada in 1929 is given as below (United States figures, for comparison, being adjoined in parentheses): beef and veal, 69.1 pounds (58.2); mutton and lamb, 7.2 (5.8); pork, 81.5 (72.8); total, 157.8 (136.8).

CATTLE MARKET PROSPECTS

BY JAMES E. POOLE

SUMMER CATTLE-TRADE PROSPECTS ARE CONFUSING, as supply, industrial conditions, and other price influences are the reverse of those of the corresponding period of 1929. At the inception of last June, heavy steers were selling up to \$14.25 on the Chicago market, long yearlings to \$15.20, and it was a \$13.50 to \$14.50 trade on the rank and file of corn-fed steers. Feeders were paying \$12 to \$13.50 for fleshy steers, and such light cattle in merely warmed-up condition as fell to the share of killers cost them \$12.50 to \$13. Canning and cutting cows were worth \$6.50 to \$8, and bologna bulls \$10 to \$10.35. Under present conditions, \$14.50 is out on the limb for heavy cattle, \$12.50 to \$13.50 taking the bulk; a long yearling rarely passes the \$13 line; killers are surfeited with steers selling anywhere from \$10 to \$11.75; there is no country market for fleshy feeders; sausage bulls are down to \$7 to \$7.50, and canning and cutting cows to \$4.75 to \$5.50. Everything else has depreciated in the same proportion.

While choice heavy steers are around \$1 per cwt. lower than at the corresponding time of 1929, other grades of steers and all butcher cattle are anywhere from \$2 to \$3 per cwt. lower—mainly \$2.50 to \$2.75. Making due allowance for depreciation in hides and other by-products, the new scale of values looks low enough. In fact, it is not an illogical conclusion that the pendulum has already swung as far in one direction as it went in the other. Obviously the present set of prices is out of line. If so, adjustment is inevitable. It may be that scarcity of finished cattle will maintain the present spread all through the season. On the other hand, such is demand for the cheaper grades of beef—the product of butcher cows and steers costing \$9.50 to \$10.50—that, with the passing of the winter-fed crop of lower-priced cattle, this demand will be sufficiently strong to push up the bottom prices. Such a movement will depend on the volume of summer grass-beef gathering, when and how it goes to market, and the purchasing mood of the feeder at that season.

There has been overproduction of practically all basic and finished commodities. Beef is the only exception. Theoretically beef, in short production, should be immune to the liquidation penalty, but it is axiomatic that the tail goes with the hide. The recent decline in cattle was due in no small degree to sympathetic action. Other commodities slumped; cattle joined the procession.

Existing cattle-trade conditions are no more satisfactory than in the case of other commodities. We are in an era of discontent—grouch as a man nursing a headache for which he has only himself to blame. Immediate application of correctives is impossible. Washington is as impotent as are the economists. The thing must work its own way out. One effective corrective, in the case of cattle, would be placing retail beef prices on a parity with live-cattle cost. Few of the quack economic doctors have recognized the seriousness of the distributive problem. Wholesale beef cost has declined \$6 to \$7 per cwt. since the apex was passed, but consumers have derived little, if any, benefit from this depreciation. Just where this money, enormous in the aggregate, has been absorbed is a conundrum. That a wasteful distribution system is largely responsible is not open to serious contradiction.

Other factors have been operative, are today, and will continue to be. Tariff agitation has been disadvantageous to the cattleman by practically doubling our foreign hide imports since January 1, compared with the corresponding period of 1929. So many factors enter into cattle-price determination that enumeration is impossible. Recently, when the market

was in the dumps, I asked an eastern buyer the why and wherefore. "They had a run of shad up the Delaware," he replied facetiously. Tallow has been practically without a market, for which an unprecedented two-season whale catch is responsible. This may sound far-fetched, but is an indisputable fact. The whale is the greatest fat-producing mammal existing, and when, in response to profitable prices, the seven seas were scoured for blubber, an enormous surplus was promptly created. When hides and by-products do not find a ready market, a burden is placed on beef, sales resistance develops, and both feeder and breeder feel the kick-back.

The April and May break in fat cattle had the logical effect of impairing confidence in beef-making operations. We do not sense the influence of feeder investment on cattle values. The abnormally high level of 1928 was solely the result of reckless purchasing by feeders; the present situation reflects a swing of the investment pendulum to an extreme in the opposite direction. Some cynic has asserted that feeders are invariably wrong at the replacement stage. They are indisputably responsible for much of the discontent that coagulates in market atmosphere. The winter crash in lamb values may be charged to feeders who, running true to form, made an overplay.

Basically there is nothing wrong with the cattle industry. We have a potential, if not actual, consuming capacity of 60 to 65 pounds per capita. Present production is flirting with 50 pounds, and before the tide turns it may drop under that line. Production and consumption are identical, as every pound of the product goes into food supply. The whole country east and west of the Missouri River is long on grass, but short of cattle. At least *prima facie* evidence of this condition is detected in heavy stocker-purchasing at the public markets from the inception of 1930 until the April slump in fat cattle set in.

The cattle industry has been liquidated to the dregs, and every liquidation eventually runs its course. Some logical deductions are:

The strategic position of the commercial breeder has not been seriously impaired by recent depreciation, while that of the feeder has been improved.

When consumers get the benefit of the new scale of wholesale beef prices, sales resistance will diminish. Distribution evils must be recognized. None of the political diagnosticians have given this phase of the subject the slightest consideration. A remedy may not be available, but search is imperative.

At present the market is absorbing the residue of the winter-made beef crop. When that has been garnered, a new price-book will be made.

Last year at this time feeders, imbued with confidence, were holding cattle back, putting on added weight, and accumulating a crop of overdone steers. This season their policy is being reversed. Every slight improvement in market conditions swells the cattle supply.

It is axiomatic that markets never repeat the previous season's performance. Look up the records, and you will realize this.

Up to July 1, 1929, cattle slaughter under federal inspection was 730,000 head less than that of the previous corresponding period. Absorptions during the latter half of the year of cattle that overstayed their logical market reduced this decrease by December 31 to 130,000 head.

This year current fat-cattle production has been cashed prematurely, which accounts for the large proportion of steers selling under \$12 and weighing less than 1,100 pounds. The result is that slaughter for the first half of 1930 will be close to that of 1929, although beef tonnage will be considerably less, owing to lighter weights.

The bulk of the somewhat heavy purchase of stock cattle during the January-to-March period represented light weight, many of these little steers going into storage. If this does not herald substantial curtailment of beef production during the latter half of 1930, we may expect a flealess canine population.

The good market of 1929 was the first half. If past performance is worth anything, the latter half of 1930 will be the more satisfactory.

During the darkest period of May, underlying strength was ill-concealed. Bad distribution made raids of 50 cents to \$1 per cwt. possible; but the recoil was prompt. Declines on big runs were speedily replaced.

Improve industrial conditions, and beef will promptly benefit. Reduce tonnage even slightly, and there will not be enough to go around. Optimism on any theme is in bad repute at the moment, but the cattle prospect is pregnant with hope. If the commodity was in overproduction, this opinion would not be justified.

Put the fat-cattle market on a more substantial basis, thereby reviving confidence in beef-making circles, and competition will be injected overnight. Potential feeder demand is broad. A probability exists that feeders, in conformity with custom, will switch from light to heavier, fleshy steers. With a good corn prospect, plenty of old corn, and abundance of roughage, another buying furore of that nature could easily be started.

The summer prospect for western cattle is more propitious than that of last year. The crop of common fed cattle is about out, and there is a broad demand for cheap product. The new scale of prices renders investment less onerous and far less hazardous. Everywhere grass exists and grain is raised, cattle are needed, and if there is any surplus over actual requirements in the trans-Missouri storehouse from the Gulf of Mexico to the Saskatchewan, every scrap of opinion on the subject is wrong.

Speculation, recently rampant, is at low ebb, with respect not only to live stock, but to all other commodities and securities. Eventually it will revive. Those who denounce speculation are invariably compounders of substitutes by which they expect to profit. Just as long as wheat, cattle, or land fluctuate in value, people will buy and sell. Attempts to legislate concerning so universal and fundamental a matter as speculation merely put the statute-makers in conflict with immutable, eternal, and irresistible economic laws. If speculation became more amenable to the principle of moderation, it would be divested of its most objectionable feature. When it runs amuck, it arouses resentment. What the effect of curtailment of speculative activity in live stock will be can only be conjectured, but must be reckoned with in any analysis of trade futures assuming intelligent effort.

VIRGIL V. PARR BECOMES RANCH MANAGER

SEVERING HIS CONNECTION WITH THE BUREAU of Agricultural Economics, where for the past ten years he has acted as specialist in live-stock production methods and the economics of the industry, covering seventeen range states, Virgil V. Parr, of Stamford, Texas, is to take over the management of the properties of the Pitchfork Land and Cattle Company, located in Dickens and King Counties in the western part of that state. His headquarters will be at the ranch.

Mr. Parr, who is a graduate of the Texas Agricultural and Mechanical College, has had previous ranch experience, and is widely known throughout the West.

WHY THE FEDERAL FARM BOARD?

BY PRAGER MILLER

Field Representative, Federal Farm Board

THE AGRICULTURAL MARKETING ACT WAS BORN as a natural evolution of business. It came into being as an instrument to bring to the farmer his natural market, based upon conditions of supply and demand. The old marketing system has kept the producers too far from the ultimate consumer market.

The farmers of our country, operating as individualists, have produced blindly and have, with few exceptions, marketed more blindly. This antiquated producing and marketing system has been gradually taking a little more of the farmer's and ranchman's dollar, and has, in fact, brought about more serious fluctuations in prices than are good for the country as a whole.

Close observers in and out of Congress, covering a period of many years, have pointed out that improved marketing machinery, on a national scale, should be set in motion to stabilize prices, thus preventing, if possible, wide fluctuations which have so disastrously affected the agricultural and live-stock industry during the past several years. Therefore the act was passed to enable the live-stock men and farmers, by co-ordinating their efforts, to set up producer-owned and producer-controlled commodity organizations or selling agencies. This will enable the producers to levy a reasonable charge on each commodity or animal marketed. Thus a fund may be created that will permit the acquiring of the best minds in the trade to sell the co-operatively pooled product on the domestic or world markets on a basis of facts as to supply and demand conditions. Through their own institutions it is possible only to advise growers as to production procedure, but they may be assisted materially in building up selling or distributing machinery. Marketing agencies being necessary, the Federal Farm Board is charged with the duty of administering the Agricultural Marketing Act in assisting, morally and financially, in the establishment of such agencies. The board is to assist producers in improving the present marketing machinery, and, where necessary, to establish marketing credit corporations, in order that they may market their products with greater knowledge and intelligence.

Growers, properly organized, may also endeavor to curtail their production to meet demand. There are no more reasons for live-stock men and farmers, properly co-operating, suffering a surplus to accumulate than for a coal operator to continue producing coal when his market has been destroyed. However, producers themselves must determine this question. Manufacturers try to anticipate the demand for their products. This growers could reasonably do, if properly organized.

Producers should avail themselves of this opportunity to organize nationally to produce economically, efficiently, and with vision as to prospective markets, and to establish commodity selling agencies that will command the respect of credit, because of their basic soundness as to ability in personnel and their actual knowledge as to markets.

We must remember that prices for our products make the value of our farms, ranches, and live stock, which are our collateral for production credits. Therefore the proper marketing machinery, with proper marketing credits, which would enable producers to market with more certainty and intelligence, is the foundation for greater stability and prosperity in our industry.

The Federal Farm Board, then, can do the following for the farm and ranch producers of the nation, who represent approximately one-fourth of our total population: It can

assist in building great commodity selling agencies that will of necessity bring greater stability and prosperity to the basic industry of agriculture, which prosperity will be reflected, directly or indirectly, to practically every home in America. This tremendous program is predicated upon two principles in particular: first, that agriculture is entitled to the opportunity of being placed upon a basis of economic equality with industry; and, second, that, if we are to prosper in America, as individuals or as industries, we must have purchasing or earning power before we become consumers. The consumers of America, who also must be producers, are certainly interested in equality of opportunity and stability in industry for all.

NATIONAL LIVE STOCK MARKETING ASSOCIATION

AT A MEETING HELD IN CHICAGO ON MAY 12, A preliminary set-up for the new National Live Stock Marketing Association was agreed upon. Articles of incorporation were filed, by-laws adopted, and officers elected, except that the choice of a secretary-manager was delayed until the regular meeting in June, when no doubt the action taken at the preliminary meeting will be confirmed. The association will begin to function shortly thereafter.

E. A. Beamer, of Blissfield, Michigan, former president of the National Live Stock Producers' Association, was elected president; H. L. Kokernot, of San Antonio, Texas, vice-president; and H. H. Parke, of Genoa, Illinois, treasurer.

The by-laws as adopted provide for the selection of four directors at large—one to be named by the National Grange, one by the American Farm Bureau Federation, one by the Farmers' Co-operative and Educational Union of America, and one by the American National Live Stock Association.

Unfortunately the various Farmers' Union houses did not participate in this meeting, nor did the Central Co-operative of St. Paul and one or two other smaller independents. It is still hoped that differences may be reconciled before the June meeting, and that the new association may start off with a united front. Unless this is done, the live-stock industry will hardly get a fair test as to what the Agricultural Marketing Act can do for it.

On the prospect of complete harmony between the different co-operative groups, Chairman Legge, of the Farm Board, is quoted as saying that, with one exception, there is no major point of disagreement among them. This point is the method of voting. The custom has grown up of one member having a vote, no matter how little of the commodity he handles. Some live-stock groups dissent from this practice, and it might be better to have voting on a quantity basis, in Mr. Legge's opinion.

Some of the groups objected to joining the national agency because they could not get the desired amount of funds from the Farm Board, but would have to go to intermediate credit banks. Mr. Legge pointed out that it would not be feasible for the board to attempt completely to finance an industry such as agriculture, with a valuation of from \$13,000,000,000 to \$15,000,000,000, and that it would be inadvisable for the government to take over the whole financing of any one of the national agricultural co-operatives.

The following six men were selected for places on the Live Stock Advisory Board, and their selection was confirmed by the Federal Farm Board: R. M. Gunn, Buckingham, Iowa, member of the board of directors of the National Live Stock and Meat Board, and live-stock feeder and breeder; T. C. Halley, Scottsbluff, Nebraska, lamb-feeder; C. A. Ewing, Decatur, Illinois, live-stock feeder, and member of the board

of directors of the Chicago Producers' Commission Association; H. L. Kokernot, San Antonio, Texas, cattle ranchman, president of the Texas Live Stock Marketing Association, and member of the executive committee of the American National Live Stock Association; Thomas E. Wilson, Chicago, Illinois, president of Wilson & Co., vice-chairman of the National Live Stock and Meat Board, and chairman of the Institute of American Meat Packers' committee to confer with live-stock producers; and R. M. Hagen, San Francisco, California, managing director of the Western Cattle Marketing Association, secretary of the California Cattlemen's Association, and member of the executive committee of the American National Live Stock Association. Mr. Wilson and Mr. Hagen were certified as "processors or handlers."

The seventh member will be selected from the officers of the National Live Stock Marketing Association. The Advisory Board immediately held a conference with C. B. Denman, and then adjourned to meet again, probably in July.

FARM BOARD PLANNING TO ORGANIZE DENVER TERRITORY

IN RESPONSE TO NUMEROUS INQUIRIES RECEIVED by the Federal Farm Board, a meeting will be held in Denver on June 5 to consider plans for forming a regional marketing association. Prager Miller, field representative of the board, is in charge of the details, and C. B. Denman, live-stock member of the board, will be on hand to address the meeting. So far the keenest interest has been shown by lamb-growers and feeders, looking ahead to the need of help in financing the movement of lambs to the feed-lot this fall. Naturally at least one credit corporation and one market agency will have to be included in any plan that would meet the situation and win the approval of both stockmen and the Farm Board.

The American National Live Stock Association, in accordance with the spirit of Resolution No. 2 passed at its convention in Denver last January (and since adopted by various state associations), has notified its executive committee and all member associations in the region involved, urging that the word be passed on, so that all interested stockmen may have the opportunity to participate in the meeting.

If a regional association is formed, it seems very likely that Denver will become its headquarters, thus adding further to the prestige of this city in the live-stock world.

MR. HAGENBARTH DEMANDS REFERENDUM ON FARM BOARD

IN A TELEGRAM SENT BY F. J. HAGENBARTH, president of the National Wool Growers' Association, to President William Butterworth, of the United States Chamber of Commerce, a referendum of the entire membership of the latter body is demanded on the question of approving or rescinding the resolution adopted at the recent meeting in Washington, D. C., calling for the repeal of the Agricultural Marketing Act, under which the Federal Farm Board is functioning.

Mr. Hagenborth, a councilor of the chamber, protests against the attack on the farm-relief legislation and the Farm Board, stating that the resolution, "passed in the heat of debate and possibly prompted by financially interested parties," reverses the stand formerly taken by the chamber approving such legislation. "Such impromptu and ill-considered action

can only result in decided lessening of the chamber's influence in national affairs," says Mr. Hagenbarth.

Local chambers of commerce in several towns in the Middle West are likewise reported to have criticized the action of the National Chamber or withdrawn their support.

CATTLEMEN OF OREGON IN CONVENTION

FOR THE FIRST TIME IN THE SEVENTEEN YEARS of its existence, the Cattle and Horse Raisers' Association of Oregon this year went to the southern part of the state for its annual convention. Here the city of Klamath Falls, near the California line, was hostess to the stockmen on May 23 and 24. In this territory, markets to the south, north, and east offer exceptional opportunities for disposing of the product of the range, and, as might have been expected, questions in connection with marketing occupied a prominent place in the discussions of the meeting. Another topic arousing considerable interest was that of live-stock thefts, of which this section of the country seems to be having more than its due share.

On the morning of the first day, President Herman Oliver delivered his annual address, being followed by Secretary William Duby, who submitted his report. Dr. W. H. Lytle, state veterinarian, then spoke on "Interpretation of Gasoline Cowboy Bill." In the afternoon, L. C. Sizemore, president of the Upper Klamath Lake Cattle Association, told of "Handling and Fattening of Cattle in Wood River Valley." F. E. Mollin, secretary of the American National Live Stock Association, discussed national problems from the stockman's point of view. "Making Marketing Machinery" was the subject of R. L. Clark, secretary of the Live Stock Exchange at North Portland. At this point, D. W. Hartzell gave one of his popular beef-cutting demonstrations. The speech of E. N. Kavanagh, assistant regional forester, Portland, had the title "From Breeding Pasture to Table." In the absence of F. A. Phillips, first vice-president of the Oregon Wool Growers' Association, Secretary Duby spoke on "Freight Rates."

The first speaker on the second day was H. A. Lindgren, of the Oregon State College Extension Service, who dealt with the "Importance of State Organization." Herbert Chandler, breeder of purebred Herefords, talked on "Better Methods in the Live-Stock Industry," and E. N. Wentworth, director of Armour's Live Stock Bureau, Chicago, on "Relation of the Live-Stock Industry of the Northwest to That of the Middle West." During the afternoon's session addresses were given by C. A. Henderson, county agriculturist of Klamath County, on "Handling and Fattening of Cattle in Wood River Valley;" E. L. Potter, of the Department of Animal Husbandry, Oregon State College, on "Baby-Beef Experiments at Union;" O. M. Plummer, general manager of the Pacific International Live Stock Exposition, Portland, on "Truth in Meats;" Wayne Stewart, of Dayville, and Frank Irvine, editor of the *Oregon Journal*, Portland. Mr. Hartzell staged another cutting demonstration.

Resolutions were passed to the following effect:

Approving Agricultural Marketing Act and policies of Federal Farm Board;

Indorsing ten-year program of predatory-animal and rodent control, as outlined by Secretary of Agriculture;

Favoring Department of Agriculture taking over large areas of public grazing lands in eastern Oregon;

Urging that all live stock entering terminal yards be inspected for brands;

Advocating modification of Consent Decree to permit packers to engage in retail selling of meats and all related commodities;

Opposing issuance of price forecasts by Department of Agriculture;

Urging that old county roads which can be utilized in driving live stock to and from national forests be not abandoned;

Requesting everyone to attend annual convention of American National Live Stock Association in Seattle in January, 1931;

Demanding that Indians running cattle in state be required to record their brands;

Asking that federal government join with counties of state in control of grasshopper plague;

Demanding change in state law referring to stock brands.

Among the entertainment features must be mentioned the "cowboy breakfast" on Saturday morning, May 24, and the banquet in the evening of the same day, at which O. M. Plummer acted as toastmaster. The banquet was followed by a dance.

These officers were named: William Pollman, president emeritus; Herman Oliver, president; C. L. Jamison, first vice-president; W. G. Snider, second vice-president; and William Duby, secretary-treasurer; all but Mr. Snider being re-elected.

Next year's convention will be held at John Day, in the east-central part of the state.

MONTANA ASSOCIATION IN ANNUAL MEETING

THE FORTY-FIFTH ANNUAL CONVENTION OF THE Montana Stock Growers' Association was held in Lewistown, in the center of the state, on May 27-28, 1930, attended by possibly the largest crowd in the history of the organization. As testifying to the prosperous condition in which this association finds itself, it is worth mentioning that upward of 700 new members were added to its rolls last year.

Following the annual address of the president, George Clemow, and the report of the secretary, E. A. Phillips, F. E. Mollin, secretary of the American National Live Stock Association, addressed the meeting on "Unsolved Problems of the Live-Stock Industry." R. C. Pollock, general manager of the National Live Stock and Meat Board, told of the activities of that body, and C. B. Denman, live-stock representative on the Federal Farm Board, outlined the progress made in organizing producers co-operatively under the Agricultural Marketing Act, and the conditions under which growers and feeders of live stock might share in the benefits of the Farm Board. A paper prepared by Dr. W. J. Butler, state veterinarian, was read in his absence, as was one submitted by James E. Poole, market editor of *THE PRODUCER*, who was likewise unable to be present. M. L. Wilson, head of the Department of Agricultural Economics of Montana State College, and F. M. Simpson, of Swift & Co., Chicago, then gave talks. The last formal address on the program was made by Charles E. Blaine, traffic counsel of the American National Live Stock Association, who dealt with the transportation problems of live-stock shippers.

A popular event was the barbecue given at noon on May 28, which attracted a large and enthusiastic crowd. Many other enjoyable entertainments were provided for the visitors.

The resolutions adopted—

Expressed appreciation of assistance rendered by railroads of state to live-stock industry;

Protested against any effort to increase wild-horse population of Montana;

Indorsed present predatory-animal control system;

Favored cession of public domain to various states as speedily as possible, and option of acceptance or rejection by individual states regardless of action by any other state;

Recommended levy of 25 cents per car on carload lots and

1 cent per head on less-than-carload lots on all cattle sold, for support of National Live Stock and Meat Board;

Bestowed honorary life memberships in association on James E. Poole and B. H. Heide, in recognition of services to association;

Opposed any change in present system of industrial accident compensation;

Deplored lack of interest in live-stock industry of state shown by Montana's two senators in not voting for tariff on hides;

Indorsed International Live Stock Exposition at Chicago, American Royal Live Stock Show at Kansas City, and National Western Stock Show at Denver;

Commended experiment-station and extension-service staffs for valuable work done in gathering and disseminating feeding data;

Urged passage of Leavitt bill for control of predatory animals;

Approved Agricultural Marketing Act and policies of Federal Farm Board, and urged members to take necessary steps to participate in plans for orderly marketing of live stock and its products;

Commended Bureau of Animal Industry for outstanding service rendered live-stock business;

Requested State Agricultural College to conduct study of production costs of range cattle industry;

Thanked Secretary E. A. Phillips for excellent work in behalf of association during past year.

All the officers were unanimously continued for another term, as follows: George Clemow, Jackson, president; Julian Terrett, Brandenberg, first vice-president; W. H. Donald, Melville, second vice-president; E. A. Phillips, Helena, secretary-treasurer.

The 1931 convention goes to Bozeman.

COLORADO STOCKMEN TO HOLD SUMMER MEETING

THE MIDSUMMER MEETING OF THE COLORADO Stock Growers' and Feeders' Association will be held at Pueblo on June 27. On the day previous, a state-wide tax conference, sponsored jointly by the association and the Colorado Federation of Farm Organizations, has been called for the same place, in which the membership is invited to take part. At this conference the proposed amendment to the state constitution, permitting the enactment of an income-tax law, and other matters designed to relieve the excessive tax burden now being borne by real and personal property, will be discussed.

Among the important problems to be dealt with at the stockmen's convention is the matter of financing the meat publicity campaign of the National Live Stock and Meat Board.

FEEDERS' DAY IN KANSAS

MORE THAN TWO THOUSAND PERSONS ATTENDED the eighteenth annual Cattle Feeders' Day held at the Kansas State Agricultural College, May 24, 1930. W. C. Coffey, dean of agriculture and director of the Agricultural Experiment Station at the University of Minnesota, gave an address on the relation of animal husbandry to agriculture in general, and its influence on the quality of citizenship of a community. John Fields, president of the Federal Land and Intermediate Credit Bank of Wichita, explained the possibilities of the Intermediate Credit Bank in serving the live-stock industry as a source of credit.

Members of the Animal Husbandry Department discussed the following cattle-feeding experiments conducted during the past year: M. A. Alexander, "Feeding Grain to Three-Year-

Old Steers During the Early Part of the Grazing Season;" D. L. Mackintosh, "The Influence of Bluestem Grass on the Color of Beef;" B. M. Anderson, "A Study of Cottonseed Meal, Linseed-Oil Meal, and Corn-Gluten Meal as Protein Supplements for Fattening Cattle;" also "The Possibility of Using Silage as the Entire Roughage Portion of a Cattle-Fattening Ration;" C. W. McCampbell, "Utilizing Grass in Fattening Young Cattle for Market." Results of these tests may be secured by addressing the Kansas Agricultural Experiment Station, Manhattan, Kansas.

BEEF CAMPAIGN ON PACIFIC COAST

AFTER A HIGHLY SUCCESSFUL ONSLAUGHT ON eastern centers, the national beef campaign late in April struck west and re-entered the state of its inception. Taking in Phoenix, Arizona, on the way, D. W. Hartzell, the cutting expert of the National Live Stock and Meat Board, arrived in Los Angeles on April 22, with a program for eleven demonstrations prearranged and waiting for him.

At all these meetings, lasting an entire week, big crowds were in attendance, and the liveliest interest was displayed. Whether packers and packing-house salesmen, retail meat-dealers, managers of restaurants, housewives, or teachers and students from home-economics classes of the high schools and the University of California, all were equally impressed with the possibilities of the new meat-cutting methods, and the demand for the pamphlets, menu-books, and other literature got out by the Meat Board was so keen that the supply gave out at an early stage. It was impossible to meet all the requests for demonstrations. "We could stay in this area for a month and keep up a full schedule, if the time were available," writes Mr. Hartzell, and it seems necessary to return to Los Angeles at some future date for another engagement. Especially gratifying was the whole-hearted co-operation received from the university, which had a representative at each of the cities in the state where meetings were held.

The Meat Publicity Council of Southern California is the organization which had the Los Angeles program in hand, and much of the success of the meetings is due to it. Since the visit of Mr. Hartzell the council has inaugurated a bill-board meat-advertising program.

From Los Angeles Mr. Hartzell proceeded to San Francisco, where the campaign was launched in February of last year. Here, with the active co-operation of the Western Cattle Marketing Association, two weeks were put in, with equally satisfactory results, every branch of the meat trade and all the high schools of the city co-operating in making the demonstration a success.

QUALITY AND PALATABILITY IN MEAT

ARMOUR'S MONTHLY LETTER TO ANIMAL HUSBANDMEN for May discusses the investigations being conducted into the causes underlying the different degrees of quality and palatability in meat. These studies are the outgrowth of a meeting of the National Live Stock and Meat Board held in July, 1924, where C. M. O'Donel, of Bell Ranch, New Mexico, then representing the American National Live Stock Association on the board, brought up the subject. At that meeting R. C. Pollock, general manager of the Meat Board, was instructed to formulate a plan of research, in co-operation with the Bureau of Animal Industry and the state agricultural colleges.

In June, 1925, representatives of more than twenty colleges and five government experiment stations met with the Meat Board in Kansas City. Here each station selected the line of work for which it considered itself particularly fitted, and the institutions grouped themselves into subcommittees to deal with the various problems. One group set to work on texture and tenderness; another took up flavor and juiciness; the study of color, especially the causes of so-called "black beef," was turned over to a third; and so on.

As so little was previously known concerning these matters, so that in reality it was pioneer work, difficulties of many kinds arose from the start, many of which it has not yet been possible to overcome. According to the *Monthly Letter*, several years must elapse before definite results are reached on several of the questions investigated. But the vast body of facts which is being gathered, when available, will cover the ground from the raw material of the industry to the final consumer product, and, in the words of the *Letter*:

"If present plans materialize, this information will be equaled by few industries and excelled by none. Never before has such a widespread correlated research system been inaugurated, and a successful result should put new spirit into the entire meat industry."

With regard to the influence of sex on the quality of beef, on which seven experiment stations have been at work, certain tentative conclusions have been reached, which are stated in this way:

"1. When steers and heifers directly comparable for age, breeding, previous feeding and management, etc., were fed similarly up to the point at which the heifers were ready for slaughter, the heifers showed the higher dressing percentage.

"2. When steers and heifers directly comparable . . . were fed similarly until the heifers were finished for slaughter, the heifers proved to be fatter and their fat was more localized.

"3. When steers and heifers directly comparable . . . were fed similarly for the same length of time, there was no consistent difference between the sexes, either with regard to live or carcass grades.

"4. Under the same conditions as specified under (2) the steers yielded a higher percentage of eye in the rib cut, and thicker rounds.

"5. Steers and heifers directly comparable . . . produced beef which showed no consistent difference in palatability."

COMMISSION CHARGES AT SIOUX CITY

A FACT-FINDING INVESTIGATION INTO THE REASONABILITY of live-stock commission charges at the Sioux City market was opened by examiners for the Department of Agriculture on May 19. This investigation is the first to be instituted since the decision of the United States Supreme Court in the Omaha case, rendered in February, which held that the Secretary of Agriculture had the power to determine such charges under the Packers and Stock-Yards Act.

The schedule of charges in effect at the Sioux City market is that fixed, late in 1924, by Assistant Secretary of Agriculture Gore and G. N. Dagger, now in charge of the rate division of the Packers and Stock-Yards Administration, acting as arbitrators between shippers and commission men.

PACKERS' CONSENT DECREE

ON MAY 26 THE SENATE, WITHOUT A RECORD vote, adopted a resolution, introduced by Senator Black, of Alabama, calling upon the Attorney-General for a report on the status of the Packers' Consent Decree, the activities of the Department of Justice in its enforcement, and the

attitude of the department toward the modification sought by the packers.

A similar resolution had been introduced by Senator Schall, of Minnesota.

Hearings on the petitions of Armour and Swift for modification of the decree, set for May 23, have again been put off. Representatives of all interested parties appeared before the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia and asked for an informal conference on May 27 for the purpose of setting a definite date.

NO MORE PREMIUMS ON NON-TUBERCULAR HOGS

PREMIUMS PAID BY PACKERS ON HOGS FROM counties accredited free from bovine tuberculosis were discontinued on June 1. Eight years ago the payment of 10 cents extra per hundred pounds on such hogs was agreed to by a number of packing companies with a view to encouraging the cattle-testing program, and thus reducing the losses from condemnations for tuberculosis, which then amounted to nearly 1 per cent of the hogs slaughtered under federal inspection. Originally the time during which the premium was to be paid was fixed at three years, but at the expiration of this test period most of the packers continued the practice.

It now appears that the clean-up campaign has progressed to the point where losses from tubercular hogs are only about one-third of what they were when the premium was first offered. This means that tuberculosis-free hogs today are worth but 3 cents per hundredweight above the general market run—an amount considered hardly worth while.

Live-Stock and Meat Exports from Canada

For the first three months of 1930, Canada exported to the United States 8,147 cattle (against 17,144 in 1929), 9,018 calves (14,225), 36 hogs (219), and 225 sheep (3,442). Of beef, 2,057,000 pounds were shipped to the United States (compared with 4,052,000 pounds in January-March, 1929).

THE CALENDAR

- June 12-14, 1930—Annual Convention of Nebraska Stock Growers' Association, Chadron, Neb.
- June 27, 1930—Midsummer Convention of Colorado Stock Growers' and Feeders' Association, Pueblo, Colo.
- July 14-15, 1930—Midsummer Convention of Utah Wool Growers' Association, Logan, Utah.
- July 15-17, 1930—Annual Convention of Wyoming Wool Growers' Association, Buffalo, Wyo.
- July 30-August 2, 1930—Annual Convention of Texas Sheep and Goat Raisers' Association, Brady, Tex.
- August 25-28, 1930—National Ram Sale, Salt Lake City, Utah.
- September 8-20, 1930—Inter-American Conference on Agriculture, Forestry, and Animal Industry, Washington, D. C.
- September 18-21, 1930—Nevada State Live Stock Show, Elko, Nev.
- September 29-October 5, 1930—Dairy Cattle Congress and National Belgian Horse Show, Waterloo, Iowa.
- October 25-November 1, 1930—Pacific International Live Stock Exposition, Portland, Ore.
- October 31-November 7, 1930—Ak-Sar-Ben Stock Show, Omaha, Neb.
- November 10-13, 1930—Kansas National Live Stock Show, Wichita, Kan.
- November 15-22, 1930—American Royal Live Stock Show, Kansas City, Mo.
- November 28-December 6, 1930—International Live Stock Exposition, Chicago, Ill.
- November 29-December 6, 1930—Christmas Live Stock Show, Los Angeles, Cal.

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Volume XII

JUNE, 1930

Number 1

FAIR PLAY

ON APRIL 26, 1929, AFTER YEARS OF CONSIDERATION and debate over agricultural relief measures, the House of Representatives, by a vote of 367 to 34, passed the first draft of the Agricultural Marketing Act. On June 13 the same body passed the final draft of the bill, as it came from the conference committee, by a vote of 250 to 113. The following day the Senate likewise adopted it, the vote standing 74 to 8. On June 15 it was signed by President Hoover. At that time there was no serious opposition, either in or out of Congress, to the passage of a bill that had some teeth in it, afforded substantial financial aid in the marketing of farm products, and bore promise of stimulating real progress in the agricultural industry. There were differences of opinion as to the amount of money which should be made available to make the act fully effective, and as to other provisions, but it was made clearly evident that neither Congress nor the country would be satisfied with a meaningless bill, devoid of provisions for lasting benefit, and the means of making them effective.

President Hoover, in charging the Federal Farm Board with its responsibility under the act, said in part:

If we are to succeed, it will be by strengthening the foundations and the initiative which we already have in farm organizations, and building steadily upon them with the constant thought that we are building, not for the present only, but for next year and the next decade.

Now, after less than a year's trial, necessarily devoted largely to organization work, and clearly insufficient to show its effects either on the industry itself or on those middlemen who have been wailing so loudly, the United States Chamber of Commerce adopts a resolution calling for the repeal of all that is really vital in the act—namely, the power given the Federal Farm Board to use federal funds in financing co-operative associations and in carrying on stabilization activities. It would substitute therefor an agricultural conference, whose members would go to Washington, have their pictures taken with the President, adopt high-sounding but impractical resolutions, and disband, becoming immediately eligible for election to Congress for having saved the nation.

What is the principal source of attack? In this case the grain trade takes the lead, but it is supported by other middlemen who take their toll on the long road between producer and consumer, and by certain bankers who fear some encroachment on their preserves. Prior to the enactment of this bill, no industry had suffered from more gratuitous advice than agriculture. On only one thing was there anything like general agreement, and that was that the spread in price between producer and consumer was too great. The Agricultural Marketing Act is designed to help remedy that condition, if it can be done; so, of course, those whose business will be somewhat affected in the process are opposed to it. More opposition has come from the brokers and speculators than from the real processors, many of whom are co-operating to the fullest possible extent.

This is primarily an agricultural country. Many years ago, in order to encourage "infant industries," a protective tariff system was adopted. Those "infant industries" have now grown into giants, but they still fatten at the public trough, and the farmers and stockmen have paid their full share of the cost. Special legislation has been enacted to encourage the building of transportation systems and to establish a national banking system, as the need arose. Legislation of the type of the Agricultural Marketing Act could not have been passed except in a great emergency, but we have the emergency, and Congress and the President had the vision to meet it. The act makes no such gifts to agriculture as have been bestowed upon industry in the legislation referred to. Instead, it provides loans to co-operative societies, to be used largely as capital in credit corporations, thus forming a base for credit at the Intermediate Credit Banks. Eventually the loans will be repaid, and the producers will be in complete control of their own credit cor-

porations and marketing associations. Without government help in the beginning, it would be impossible thus to bring together widely scattered production units.

Is the United States Chamber of Commerce merely a trade association for big business, or is it really concerned in the welfare of the entire country? If the former, little attention should be given its suggestions relating to another industry. If the latter, it should consider the relative importance to the welfare of the country at large of the welfare of the entire agricultural industry, as compared with that of the middlemen who handle its products.

No one can say at this time how successful the attempt to help agriculture will be, but the attempt should be made, and opposition comes with poor grace from those who have for years benefited from a liberal tariff policy, to the relative disadvantage of agriculture.

Now that the opposition is out in the open, the issue is clearly defined. Farmers and stockmen all over the country, east and west, north and south, are organizing to take advantage of the aid offered. The opposition of the United States Chamber of Commerce will only serve to strengthen their determination to give the attempt a fair trial. They will fight to see that that right is not taken away from them. Fair play demands that it should not be. In the final analysis, the bill simply makes it possible for agriculture to organize so that it can help itself.

WHAT PRICE "PROTECTION"?

WHATEVER THE ULTIMATE FATE OF the tariff bill—hanging in the balance as we write—the purpose of a powerful, though shifting, majority in Congress has been made clear enough for him who runs to read. And the world is reading as it speeds along, accepting the intention for the accomplished fact.

In the May PRODUCER we mentioned the action taken by Germany, France, and other countries of continental Europe in retaliation against proposed American duties. We spoke of Great Britain, where the existing agricultural depression is deepened by the menace looming from across the Atlantic, and where a political issue is being shaped over a new national policy that would link empire free trade with a stiff tax on imports from high-tariff countries, including the United States. In Canada, so-called "countervailing" duties have just been placed on a variety of products, but mostly of farm origin, coming from this side of the line—meaning that rates will be levied equivalent to those imposed by us on similar goods shipped here from the Dominion. Now comes Cuba, incensed at the advance in the tariff on

sugar, and raises her duty on American farm products from 50 to 300 per cent. Australia, following suit, has increased the tariff on American imports. A large number of other nations are reported to be getting ready to hit back. In South America, the antagonism against the "Colossus of the North," always smoldering, is blazing out in full flame. All told, between thirty and forty nations are said to have lodged protests at Washington. Literally, the world is up in arms against us.

THE PRODUCER has said before, and repeats, that so long as protection is the policy of the land, it should go without saying that agriculture cannot be left out in the cold. Too long have the farmer and the live-stock man been the stepchildren in our economic household. They cannot be expected to go on producing, without complaint and without recourse, in rivalry with hides and canned meats from Argentina, with Australian wool and New Zealand lamb, brought to these shores either free of duty or over an inadequate tariff wall, while paying an exorbitant tax on every manufactured article that they have to buy. It was to remedy this situation, and bring about a measure of equality between agriculture and industry, that the extra session of Congress was called, and it was in an effort to secure justice for the farmer and stock-raiser that their representatives have fought so valiantly at Washington during the past year.

But once the door was opened wide, and every crossroads manufacturer rushed in with demands for more and ever more "protection" for his particular output, and Congress proved its willingness to lend a sympathetic ear, not only was the avowed object of the session frustrated, and the old disparity largely left undisturbed, but an international problem was evolved, of such magnitude as to threaten to wrench our whole economic system out of joint.

Is this game, as it has been played, worth the candle? Do we not stand to lose much more than we could possibly gain? Already our foreign trade is falling off by leaps and bounds. So far manufactures have been hit the hardest; but the harm is not going to stop with manufactures. When a vindictive world has shut its markets to our surplus, of wheat as well as of automobiles, of bacon as well as of tractors, and when the repercussions from millions of workers thrown out of employment by default of the foreign market reach out into the country lanes, shall we not then, farmers and city-dwellers alike, begin to wonder whether a tariff, after all, may not "protect" too much, and whether even this kind of "security" cannot be bought at too high a price?

With all its power and riches, is the United States quite ready to play this solo of unconcern and self-contentment in the international concert, while at the same time continuously adding fresh fagots to the

pyre of envy, distrust, and ill-concealed hostility surrounding us on all sides?

If cattle- and lamb-growers were to consult their own selfish interests alone, and nothing were to happen in the domestic or foreign field to disturb the even tenor of our ways, undoubtedly some benefits would accrue from the new rates. But, looking at the matter from the broader point of view of agriculture as a whole, and with the possibility of a disastrous trade war in mind, can we afford to take this attitude of half-satisfied resignation?

THE PRODUCER does not know, but believes that here is a question which may well be worth pondering.

LIVE-STOCK AND MEAT-GRADING

AS MENTIONED IN LAST MONTH'S "PRODUCER," postponement of action on Representative Haugen's bill for the establishment of uniform grades on live stock and live-stock products at the markets under federal inspection was decided upon at the conference of representatives of the various branches of the industry held in Chicago on May 2. There was general agreement that the matter was of sufficient importance to call for deliberation, and three committees—one for cattle and beef, one for hogs and pork, and one for sheep and mutton—were appointed, to confer during the summer and autumn, and jointly to draft a modified measure to be submitted to Congress at its next session.

A system of standard grades has long been needed. In the case of stock shipped for slaughter, there is today great confusion in the terminology used, different terms being employed at different markets to describe the same class of animal, or the same term carrying different meanings according to circumstances and time of year. In the interest of everybody, but particularly of the producer, this should be changed, so that a given word or phrase would always be understood by both buyer and seller as meaning just one thing.

It seems doubtful, too, if the plan of centralized marketing contemplated by the Farm Board can be made a complete success without some such reform. It should be possible for a packer to order, say, a car-load of hogs from a co-operative concentration point by merely indicating the grade desired, being certain to get just what he wanted.

While there is accord as to the desirability of official standards for live stock, difficulties arise when it comes to applying similar rules to meat. It is but natural that packers should hesitate to accept a scheme which would interfere with the private marks under which some of them have built up a considerable trade, and which have come to possess a definite advertising value. So far as beef is concerned, it is

fortunate that marking is still in the experimental stage, and a revised system can be adopted with little inconvenience.

The acknowledged advantages of greater uniformity and simplicity would suggest a modification of the present system. With the three grades of government-stamped beef that are now offered for sale in competition with beef bearing various private trade-marks, there is bound to be a great deal of bewilderment in the mind of the average consumer, who sees conflict even where a multiplicity of labels cover much the same quality. The development of the retail package, in some cases marked with entirely new names, does not tend to simplify matters. This perplexity it seems desirable to eliminate. It is not proposed to compel the packers to discard their own brands, but some scheme undoubtedly could be worked out by which the government label would be combined with the private labels. The full benefit from any grading plan cannot be reaped until we have a uniform system to which everybody must adhere, and which can readily command the support of producers, packers, and their joint agency, the National Live Stock and Meat Board. In no other way can a national campaign be carried on to inform housewives as to grades, and to insure that they get the grade they pay for.

Meanwhile specialists in the Bureau of Agricultural Economics are busily engaged in working out a complete system of grading and in formulating definitions that will be satisfactory to everybody. Official standards have already been promulgated by the Secretary of Agriculture for cattle, vealers, and calves, and for beef, veal, and calf carcasses. The latest pamphlet to be issued by the bureau deals with hogs, for which tentative grades are proposed. Similar grades for pork, sheep, and mutton have been prepared and, we take it, will be published shortly.

MEXICAN IMMIGRATION ONCE MORE

CONTRARY TO EXPECTATIONS, THE MEXICAN immigration issue, believed to have been disposed of for the present session of Congress at least, has again come to the fore. On May 13 the Harris bill, after having been bandied back and forth until little was left of its original substance, and finally returned to committee to be patched up into presentable shape, through some more legerdemain was recalled from committee and reconsidered. An amendment offered by its sponsor, Senator Harris, striking out everything after the enacting clause and substituting a paragraph placing Mexico alone under the national-origins quota, was passed, the vote standing 51 to 16. As showing the absurd seesawing to which this important piece of legislation has been

subjected, it is sufficient to recall the fact that an identical proposal was made by Mr. Harris when the bill was first before the Senate, and was then voted down, 66 to 11.

The matter is now in the hands of the House, where already the Box bill is pending. In view of the wonderful acrobatics of the upper chamber, we shall refrain from any predictions as to what may eventually happen there.

On the authority of Mr. Harris, the bill as passed by the Senate limits Mexican immigration to between 1,200 and 1,800 annually. According to a recent announcement by the Department of State, based on immigration visés, Mexican laborers are at present entering at the rate of but 1,439 a year. This is a considerable decline from the 56,000 coming in each year from 1925 to 1928, and the 39,000 entering last year under more rigid administrative rules. It is true that a total of 10,483 such laborers have crossed the border during the past ten months, but nearly all of these had previous residence in this country. On the basis of these figures, where is the emergency that has to be met?

The terms of the bill apply to Mexico only. Canada has been excluded from its provisions—which, of course, is as it should be. But so have all the other countries of the Western Hemisphere. That this discrimination is liable to arouse ill feeling south of the Rio Grande is an aspect of the matter to which Congress seems to have attached little weight, but to which our administration is keenly alive. The question might well be asked whether, at this particular juncture, with resentment everywhere running high against our new tariff policies, the United States can afford unnecessarily to add fuel to the flame.

However, it is the economic phase of the problem with which western stockmen are chiefly concerned. In these times, when the necessity of reducing production costs is being dinned into their ears with ever-increasing force, it is especially unfortunate that the only dependable fount of agricultural labor for large sections of the country should be dried up at its source.

ADVANCE ALONG THE RUSSIAN FRONT

IT IS SIGNIFICANT THAT, WHILE THE value of all kinds of machinery exported from the United States during the first quarter of the current year, as compared with the same period a year ago, declined from \$351,615,000 to \$277,705,000, or 21 per cent, shipments abroad of agricultural machinery alone rose from \$36,799,000 to \$50,256,000, or nearly 34 per cent. Of this amount, wheel tractors accounted for \$23,316,000, represented by 23,018 machines, against \$16,613,000 and 18,773 machines for the first three months of 1929. By far the best

customer for tractors was Soviet Russia, which took 13,469 machines, valued at \$14,986,000, against only 4,381, worth \$4,183,000, last year. This is an increase of nearly 258 per cent, and furnishes eloquent testimony to the rate at which the Soviet program of revolutionizing Russia's agriculture is progressing.

An emissary from the Soviet government, Dr. A. S. Bondarenko, professor of agricultural economics in the Agricultural Academy at Moscow, has lately been in this country studying our farming methods. According to him, as quoted in *Wallaces' Farmer*, more than half of Russia is now being farmed in "the new way"—which means on the "socialized" or communistic plan—and he predicts that in three years' time she will be in position to export at least 150,000,000 bushels of wheat annually. Not only this, but Russia, says Dr. Bondarenko, is rapidly getting to the point where she will manufacture her own tractors, to the number of about 100,000 a year. Toward the realization of this ambition, one of the largest tractor firms in the United States is co-operating. It is well known, too, that Henry Ford has gone into Russia in order to help matters along, while incidentally doing a little business on his own account. Many of our most skilled engineers are at present in the Soviet Republic in the employ of the government, assisting in organization work and acting as instructors, and more than a hundred Russians are in Detroit familiarizing themselves with every detail in mass production of automobiles and trucks.

Thus, by buying and learning from us, Russia is getting ready to fight us. One of the first results of that new competition will be an attempt to supplant us in the European wheat marts. Her soil is particularly fitted for this crop, in the cultivation of which her peasants have had a thousand years' experience. Some of the keenest minds in the world are at work on the problem of making Russia, with her immense natural resources and limitless man-power, a factor to be reckoned with in international trade.

All of which lends edge to Mr. Legge's oft-repeated admonition: "Let us raise our own wheat, but let us keep it inside our own fence."

DIED—On May 7, 1930, at Washington, D. C., MRS. F. R. MARSHALL, wife of F. R. Marshall, secretary of the National Wool Growers' Association and editor of the *National Wool Grower*, Salt Lake City, Utah.

Our "Stockmen's Exchange" has lately been neglected. No department in "The Producer," probably, is read with more interest. Write us a letter, giving your views on the tariff, the Farm Board, the surplus problem, etc., or tell us of live-stock and weather conditions in your neighborhood.

WHAT THE GOVERNMENT IS DOING

IN CONGRESS

AS THE TIME DRAWS NEAR FOR THE FINAL VOTE on the tariff bill, with prospect of agreement between the two houses, speculation is rife as to what the President will do. It is true that the debenture rider, tacked on by the Senate, to which Mr. Hoover so vigorously objects, has been stripped from the measure, and that a compromise has been effected on the "flexible" provision which is supposed to be satisfactory to him. It is likewise true that members of Congress in the confidence of the White House are predicting executive sanction of the bill as thus altered.

Nevertheless, one can well understand that there is much in the situation to make the man hesitate on whose shoulders will be thrown most of the blame if the effects of the tariff bill fail to come up to expectations. Not only has the avowed object in calling the extra session—that of giving relief and equality to agriculture—largely been lost sight of in the shuffling of rates and log-rolling of votes, but the clouds gathering on our foreign-trade horizon are hourly getting darker and threaten serious trouble.

Protests began pouring in the moment it appeared likely that an agreement would be reached on the bill. First among the notable groups of critics were 1,028 members of the American Economic Association, representing 179 colleges in forty-six states, who in a signed statement addressed to President Hoover, Senator Smoot, and Representative Hawley expressed their opposition to passage of the bill. The conviction is voiced by these men that higher restrictive duties in general would operate to increase the prices which producers would have to pay, without a corresponding gain. Among the losers, they say, would be "the vast majority of farmers":

"Their cotton, pork, lard, and wheat are export crops and are sold in the world market. They have no important competition in the home market. They cannot benefit, therefore, from any tariff which is imposed upon the basic commodities which they produce. They would lose through the increased duties on manufactured goods, however, and in a double fashion. First, as consumers they would have to pay still higher prices for the products which they buy. Second, as producers, their ability to sell their products would be further restricted by the barriers placed in the way of foreigners who wished to sell manufactured goods to us. Our export trade, in general, would suffer. Countries cannot permanently buy from us unless they are permitted to sell to us. . . . Finally we would urge our government to consider the bitterness which a policy of higher tariff would inevitably inject into our international relations. . . . A tariff war does not furnish good soil for the growth of world peace."

To this we would simply add the comment that college professors as a class always have been inclined to lean toward free trade.

The effect on our foreign trade is painted in glaring colors by industrial exporters, who are literally swamping the White House with protests against the tariff bill, predicting

the direst calamity to our international trade. Nearly all the important countries of the world, we are told, have taken or are getting ready to take retaliatory action. This phase of the matter we are dealing with elsewhere in this issue.

In Washington these threats seem largely to have been discounted, Senator Smoot declaring that similar protests have accompanied the enactment of any tariff bill in the past, and that in time the agitation will undoubtedly die down. Anyway, the chances are that the strictures will not stampede Congress into rejection of the bill, whatever the effect may be on the President. Probably no one would be greatly surprised, and a large number of people would actually be relieved, if he should veto it.

On the three controversial issues of the bill an agreement has been reached. The debenture provision was thrown out bodily, the Senate backing down by the narrow margin of 43 to 41. The so-called "flexible" clause, giving the President the power, on recommendation by the Tariff Commission, to raise or lower import duties 50 per cent, which the Senate had changed to lodge the authority in Congress, was compromised, in that, if the President fails to act within sixty days, the recommendations of the Tariff Commission automatically become effective. On this the vote was a tie—42 to 42—and it took the Vice-President to cast the decisive ballot. Finally, the powers of the Tariff Commission have been broadened, and the commission will henceforth be a bipartisan body, composed of six members, instead of seven as at present—three from each party.

(On the bill being sent back to conference by Vice-President Curtis, the flexible provision was once more altered, so that recommendations by the Tariff Commission will not become effective if the President fails to act.)

There now remains the final vote to be taken. Little difficulty is anticipated in the House, but in the Senate the bill is liable to have less smooth sailing. Before this number of THE PRODUCER is in the hands of our readers, the fate of the Smoot-Hawley tariff act is likely to have been decided. If, and when, it is passed and signed, we shall print the new and old rates of particular interest to agriculture.

* * *

Over rather strong opposition, the bill providing for the appointment of a number of agricultural attachés, to represent the Bureau of Agricultural Economics abroad in gathering information that may assist American farmers to adjust their operations to meet world conditions, which had been passed by the Senate on May 12 without a record vote, was passed by the House on May 16, the vote being 195 to 75. This is the bill on which there has been considerable controversy for a long time, a group of members in Congress insisting that the Department of Commerce should have charge of this expansion of our foreign service.

* * *

By a vote of 196 to 114, the House on May 28 adopted a resolution, introduced by Representative Reece, of Tennessee, for private operation of the Muscle Shoals power plant, to be substituted for the plan of government operation proposed in a resolution introduced in the Senate by Senator Norris, of Nebraska, and passed by that body. The Reece resolution provides for a board, appointed by the President, to negotiate for private leasing of the plant by December 1, 1931.

FEDERAL FARM BOARD

PLANS HAVE BEEN ANNOUNCED FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT of at least five regional branches of the National Grain Corporation, with a district manager in charge of each. These branches will be ready to function with the beginning of the 1930 harvest. The branch office for the southwestern territory, embracing all the hard-winter-wheat areas, will be at Kansas City; St. Paul, Duluth, and Minneapolis are being considered for the spring-wheat area; in the Pacific Northwest more than one office will likely be required, Spokane and Portland being under consideration; in the Northeast an office probably will be opened at Buffalo.

The corporation has purchased the Hall-Baker Grain Company of Kansas City, one of the largest grain firms in the West, at a price understood to approximate \$3,000,000. The deal includes leases on nearly 6,000,000 bushels of elevator space. This company has been handling between 30,000,000 and 40,000,000 bushels of grain annually, and has been the largest exporter through Gulf ports, as well as the largest merchandiser of milling wheat, in the country.

A loan of \$900,000 to the United Dairymen's Association of Seattle, and one of \$450,000 to the Challenge Cream and Butter Association of Los Angeles, have been tentatively approved. These associations and the Lower Columbia Co-operative Dairy Association of Astoria, Oregon, which already has been granted a loan, include in their present membership practically all the dairy co-operatives west of the Rocky Mountains. In addition, a loan of \$1,900,000 has been granted the Co-operative Pure Milk Association of Cincinnati.

Farmers' dairy associations will discuss further expansion of the farm marketing program of the Farm Board at a national conference to be held in Columbus, Ohio, during the week beginning July 7.

William G. Owens, of Williston, North Dakota, has been appointed chief attorney of the Farm Board.

NEED OF MODERNIZED METHODS IN LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION

OBSOLETE METHODS OF MANAGEMENT, AND TYPES of live stock which no longer meet production needs and market requirements, must be abolished, and more economical and progressive methods and types substituted, according to Dr. John R. Mohler, chief of the Bureau of Animal Industry, addressing the Central States Tuberculosis Conference at Cedar Rapids, Iowa, April 29. This junking process takes both courage and capital, but in the end will prove the wisest course.

Referring to stockmen's conventions, stock shows, research activities, a wide-awake press, and the headway made in eradicating live-stock disease as unmistakable signs of progress, Dr. Mohler reminded his hearers that "progress" is a relative term, and that an industry may seem to be moving forward, while in reality it is losing ground. This condition is especially true where the element of mass production is involved. Though animals of uniformly high quality may be, and are

being, produced, the average is still far below the ideal. The speaker considered 50 per cent a conservative estimate of obsolete breeding stock. There are three types of such animals, whose combined numbers run into the millions: those that continually fail to repay cost of maintenance, inferior sires, and stock affected with communicable diseases.

As suggestions for improvement, Dr. Mohler mentioned first the need for breeding types more in conformity with market demands. Why, for instance, raise cattle to four, five, or even six years of age, when market requirements are for smaller carcasses? Then, again, if, as now seems likely, quality in meat is an inherited trait, why not strive to develop strains that will produce meat of assured quality, and cull the unfit types?

Dr. Mohler made reference to the unethical practice of "doctoring" show animals to hide defects—an evil which, he asserted, it was incumbent upon producers to stamp out. Concluding, he said:

"In industry, as in travel, the plans of today become the progress of tomorrow. In the swift-moving era in which we live, there is need to use methods which enable us to meet the pace set by our fellow industrial travelers. Better, healthier, and more useful animal types are a prime consideration. Then let specialized knowledge in live-stock husbandry and veterinary science be applied to each problem. Experience is a valuable balance-wheel, but new knowledge and its prompt application constitute the motive power by which we advance. Finally, let us include codes of ethics and such harmony of purposes as to win public confidence in the conduct of the live-stock industry and the integrity of its products."

PAN-AMERICAN AGRICULTURAL CONFERENCE

OFFICIALS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, in co-operation with the Department of State and the Pan-American Union, are busy preparing for the Inter-American Conference on Agriculture, Forestry, and Animal Husbandry to be held in Washington, D. C., September 8-20, 1930. This conference, called pursuant to a resolution passed by the Sixth International Conference of American States at Havana in February, 1928, is the first Pan-American gathering to deal exclusively with agricultural topics.

A program is being drawn up which includes the broadest discussion of the problems of agriculture and related industries, in so far as they are common to or affect the various countries of the Western Hemisphere, as well as the formation of plans for effective continental co-operation. Both governmental and private agencies will take part.

THE CROP OUTLOOK

WITH MORE FAVORABLE WEATHER, PROSPECTS for the winter-wheat crop improved in most sections during May. In some states, however, rains came too late to do much good. A yield of 525,000,000 bushels is forecast by the government, as against the 578,000,000 harvested last year, and a ten-year average of 550,636,000 bushels. Seeding of spring wheat in the Northwest was completed about May 20. Montana reports an increased acreage.

Rye, oats, and barley are making a good growth.

Soil conditions have been generally favorable for corn-planting.

Lately there has been a rather large movement of wheat from Chicago to Atlantic and Gulf seaports, mostly on Grain Stabilization Corporation account. Millers have been buying freely from the government agency. Values, following a severe depression, rallied somewhat about the middle of May.

OUR TRAFFIC PROBLEMS

TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORTATION

BY CHARLES E. BLAINE

Traffic Counsel, American National Live Stock Association

Proposed Legislation

SENATE BILL 4311, INTRODUCED BY SENATOR Jones, of Washington (by request), involves a plan to put the Interstate Commerce Commission into the business of promoting the construction of railroads in public-land states. The bill provides that the commission shall plan, finance, construct, rent, or lease railroad beds and structures, the roadbeds being no farther advanced than the sub-grade. Application for constructing the railroads may be made by twenty-five or more citizens who are "freeholders in any district or territory not served by an existing railroad." The bill contains minute directions for the filing and disposition of such applications by the co-operation of the Federal Commission, the Secretary of War, the United States Treasury, and the state commissions. The bill also authorizes the commission to make a preliminary bond issue of not to exceed \$750,000, to bear 5 per cent interest; the money to be credited to what is known as a railroad development fund. The author of the scheme is not disclosed. The bill has been referred to the Committee on Interstate Commerce.

Formal Cases Pending

Interstate Commerce Complaint in Docket No. 23302, Standard Packing Company et al. v. Union Pacific et al., attacks rates on hogs and sheep, double-deck, from points in Utah, Idaho, Montana, and Wyoming to Los Angeles, California. Reasonable rates are sought for the future, and reparation in the amount of \$50,000 is claimed.

Under Docket No. 23400, the Interstate Commerce Commission on its own motion has instituted an investigation of the co-ordination of service of motor carriers with service of carriers subject to the Interstate Commerce Act. This investigation, according to the commission's order, is for the purpose of developing facts about the relation of the motor vehicle to the railroad in the transportation of persons and property, with a view to taking action and making recommendations to Congress for proper legislation on the subject.

Burden of Proof in Rate Cases

The question of the burden of proof in rate cases is one of vital importance. It is desired to impress upon members of the American National Live Stock Association that the burden of proof is upon complainants. It must be borne in mind that the commission is restricted in its decisions to the record as made by complainants. Stated otherwise, the commission in rendering its decisions is limited to the record before it.

This fact was again, forcefully and unfortunately,

brought out in a recent decision of the commission, wherein complainant assailed combination rates on live stock. In reaching its conclusion, the commission stated: "On this record, we find that the rates assailed were not and are not unreasonable." It is clear that complainants in that case failed in their proof.

Court Decisions

In St. Louis-San Francisco Ry. Co. v. Chastain, 25 S. W. Rep. (2d) 28, the Supreme Court of Arkansas held that the failure of a shipper to pay freight on a carload of mules before unloading did not defeat the liability of the carrier for damages to the mules by reason of delay in watering and feeding them, where it was shown that it was customary to unload before payment of freight. Such failure of the railroad to place the car at the unloading track at the time it arrived, or to have the mules watered and fed, was held to constitute negligence for which the railroad was liable. The court further held that, though the carrier has a lien on goods transported for freight charges, it may waive such lien. The evidence showed that failure to pay freight charges was not the cause of the delay.

The Supreme Court of Nebraska, in Allender v. Chicago & N. W. Ry. Co., 230 N. W. Rep. 102, held that the negligence of a railroad with respect to rough handling of cattle during shipment is a question for the jury; further, that an experienced cattle-dealer, buyer, or seller was a competent witness to testify as to the market value and average weight of the animals.

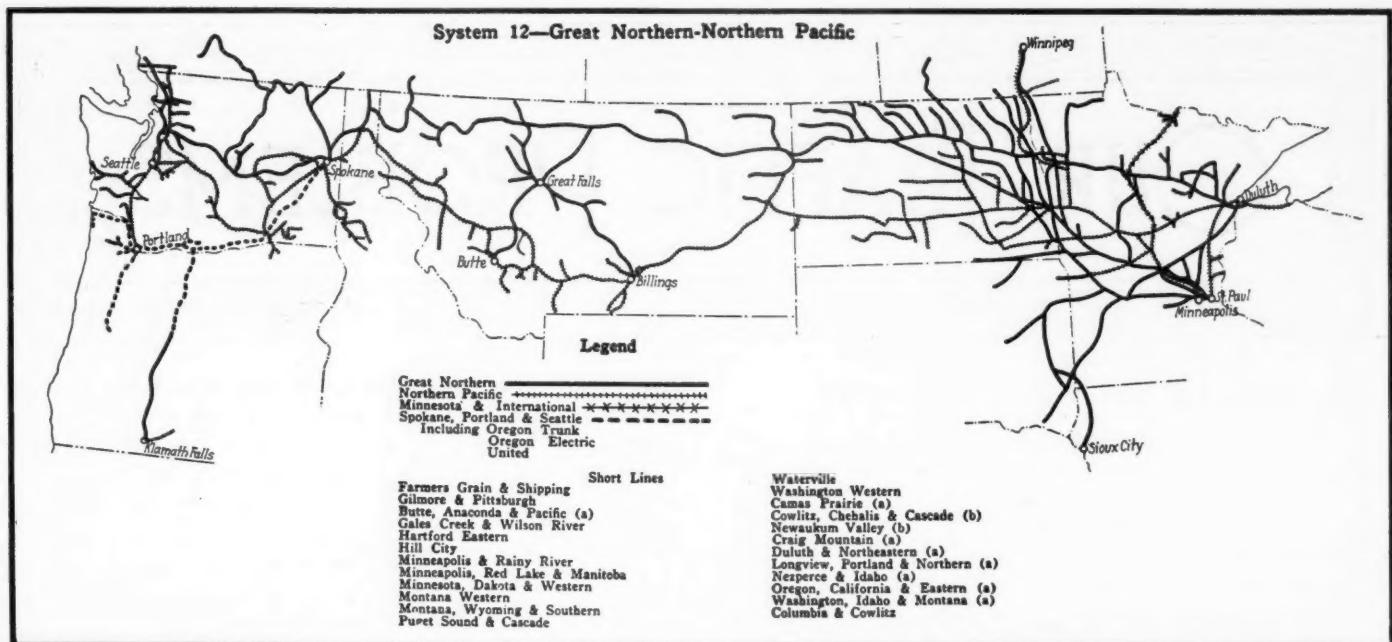
New Tariffs Filed

Santa Fe Tariff No. 5907-H, I. C. C. 10947, has been filed to become effective June 25, 1930. It carries rates on live stock between points on the Santa Fe Railway in California. Miscellaneous reductions and increases are indicated.

Agent Gomph's Tariff No. 87-I, I. C. C. 1000, has been issued to become effective June 25, 1930. This tariff carries the joint-line rates on live stock between lines in Arizona, New Mexico, and Texas, on the one hand, and points in Arizona, California, Nevada, New Mexico, and Oregon, on the other hand.

RAILROAD CONSOLIDATION

FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CONSOLIDATING the two hundred odd independent railroad lines of the country into nineteen great systems were promulgated by the Interstate Commerce Commission in December, 1929. The work has been in preparation for years. An amendment to the Act to Regulate Commerce, passed by Congress in 1920, directs the commission "as soon as practicable" to submit a plan for consolidation of the railroad properties of the United States, such plan to preserve competition and maintain the existing channels of trade to the fullest possible extent.



In September, 1921, the original merger plan was published, in the main following suggestions contained in a report by Professor William Z. Ripley, of Harvard University, a noted transportation expert, made at the request of the commission. This plan was merely tentative, and has served as the basis for criticisms and hearings, as a result of which many changes have been incorporated into the new plan. In working out his report, Professor Ripley was guided by the following principles: (1) "an inherently natural geographic scope for each system;" (2) "a sound operating adaptation of each unit to its surroundings;" (3) "administrative practicability;" (4) "an ever-present competition between rival roads;" and (5) "such an equalization of earning capacity as to perpetuate such rivalry in service on an even-handed and wholesome basis." The same principles may be presumed to underlie the present proposal.

After the war, which placed tremendous burdens on our transportation system, temporarily under the control of the national government, the railroads found themselves in a muddle, with disorganization everywhere, roadbeds and rolling-stock breaking down, cost of management out of all proportion to earnings, investors grumbling, and shippers in audible protest against mounting rates. In an effort to remedy a bad situation, Congress placed the consolidation clause in the law. Quoting from THE PRODUCER of November, 1921, commenting on the Ripley scheme:

"What is lacking, thinks the commission, is a reorganization that will reduce the ruinous overhead charges; a centralization and co-ordination of forces that will avoid duplication and wasteful diffusion, insuring maximum service for a minimum of cost; a concentration of administrative efficiency which will lift mismanaged but intrinsically valuable feeder roads—the 'weak sisters' of the present systems—out of the slough of insolvency and place the stronger lines on a foundation of unquestioned financial soundness; a pooling or group arrangement that will eliminate cut-throat competition between carriers in the same locality, but preserve a wholesome degree of rivalry between interpenetrating regional groups."

Consolidation is not compulsory—it must be voluntarily accepted by the carriers. To be accomplished, therefore, it must appeal to them as advantageous to themselves. Within the given framework, the railroads may now proceed to submit proposals for mergers. The only condition is that their

financial structure be shown to be sound and that it clearly appear that their plan is in the public interest.

Of the nineteen groups or systems suggested by the commission, eight have direct application to the western half of the United States. From a map published by *Railway Age*, THE PRODUCER in each of its following eight issues will print a map of one of these groups, showing the main line after which the system is named, the other major lines, and the short lines proposed to be consolidated under one management. We begin with System 12—Great Northern-Northern Pacific, which takes in the states of Minnesota, North Dakota, Montana, Idaho, and Washington, with branches into adjoining states.

LIABILITY FOR ANIMALS KILLED BY RAILROAD

EFFECTIVE FEBRUARY 15, 1928, THE ATCHISON, Topeka & Santa Fe Railroad provided the following valuations per head on live stock killed on its right-of-way:

Calves	\$ 30
Cows	50
Heifers	40
Steers—one year old	45
Two years old	65
Three years old	80
Bulls—under six years old	135
Six years and over	60

Undoubtedly a similar rating is in effect on other roads. On such valuations our traffic counsel, Charles E. Blaine, makes this comment:

"The liability for animals killed is the market value thereof. Therefore, where the market value exceeds the above figures, owners are not required to accept the arbitrary amounts specified by the carrier. However, said amounts represent the basis of settlement which the Santa Fe will make without quibbling, once the death of an animal is proved."

"I would not want to do without THE PRODUCER while I am in the cattle business, as it is one of the best papers printed."
 —W. H. K. WILLIAMS, Cottonwood, S. D.

THE MARKETS

LIVE-STOCK MARKET IN MAY

BY JAMES E. POOLE

CHICAGO, ILL., June 1, 1930.

ALTERNATELY COLLAPSING AND RECUPERATING, the May cattle market was a bad-acting affair. Two over-laden Monday sessions around the market circle were largely responsible. With better supply distribution, much of the loss to shippers might have been averted, as the serious breaks were enforced on the heavy runs, the short end of the week's crop benefiting by the ensuing upturn. Regardless of what happened, it was a favorable period for killers, but the reverse for feeders, especially those carrying intermediate cattle, with respect to both weight and grade. Heavy steers of the better type were not wholly immune, but evaded the brunt of the decline; common steers were hit hard, selling down to lower levels than beef cows at the corresponding period of 1929. On the slump, the whole market, with the exception of a few specialties, hit the lowest price strata since 1927, average cost of all slaughter steers at Chicago during the week ending May 17 figuring \$10.80 per cwt.

Wide Spread Between Common and Choice Steers

That notch on the downward swing of the price-cycle marks a drop of \$3.30 per cwt. in average steer cost at Chicago, compared with the corresponding period of 1929. At this stage a healthy reaction set in, average cost the following week advancing 50 cents per cwt.; but the last week of May precipitated another break, from which recovery was again prompt; so that, apart from shifts, or what might be termed adjustments, net losses were not serious. Toward the end of the month the lower grades of steers picked up, in response to broad demand for cheap beef, if anything was cheap over the retailer's counter; but the spread between common and choice steers—practically \$6 per cwt.—was wider than in many years at that season, due to the large proportion of common and non-descript steers, valued in the \$9 to \$11 range, which on many sessions comprised the bulk of the supply. With choice heavy bullocks always worth \$14.25 or better, several days elapsed without a \$14 sale being registered. Much of the heavy contribution lacked the quality essential to getting into the upper price register, selling anywhere from \$12 to \$13.

Yearlings Suffer Most During Month

Yearlings were the under dogs of the market, reversing last year's conditions, under which they claimed the premium. Occasionally a load of young yearlings realized \$13 to \$13.50, but these had both weight and quality—1,050 pounds or more—and were distinct specialties. A raft of light, mixed-sex little cattle went over the scales at \$11.25 to \$12.50, and, as they were laid in high as calves last fall, owners squawked audibly. Yearling heifers were involved in sharp depreciation, \$10.50 to \$11.25 taking the bulk of them, to the chagrin of feeders, who had confidently expected \$2 to \$3 per cwt. more, based on last year's performance.

No Lack of Inferior Qualities

Of cattle weighing 1,050 pounds down, lacking quality and selling anywhere from \$9.25 to \$10.50, there was never a

deficiency. This type was also a disappointment to feeders, as they were acquired too high. Last year the big steer was the bad actor of the trade, but on this occasion weights exceeding 1,150 pounds were popular. A constant glut of "snipes," "yellow-hammers," and other ill-bred trash, but carrying fat, played havoc with the market for intermediate yearlings, and was responsible for the wide spread in prices of good light steers and heifers, on the one hand, and a small delegation of 1,200- to 1,500-pound bullocks selling from \$13 up, on the other. Frequently a day's receipts at Chicago carried a mere handful of steers selling above \$12, while an occasional load was eligible to \$14 or better; and when the top did not beat \$14, the kind of cattle necessary to make the price were absent.

Cheap Beef Is Plentiful

Beef men supplying chain-store and other "cheap" trade found easy picking most of the month, as \$9 to \$11 steers were plentiful. Many of them had been carried along in the hope of improved trading conditions, and were cut loose as the season worked along, on the theory that their day had passed; also to evade competition with early grass cattle from the Southwest. The crash in values hereabouts impaired confidence in low-grade steers as a beef-making proposition. Feeders went to them so enthusiastically last fall, putting prices up on themselves and creating a surplus of light beef at this stage.

Consumer Derives Little Benefit from Lower Prices

Broad demand for the cheaper grades of beef was somewhat obscured by liberal supplies of low-grade cattle. Common steer carcasses selling at \$14 to \$15 per cwt. never accumulated on the hang-rail in the cooler. In this competition, yearling carcasses suffered. Retailers were able to buy at \$14 to \$15.50 per cwt. carcasses that cost \$17 to \$21 a year ago, forcing yearling carcasses worth \$21.50 to \$28 last year down to \$15 to \$21. How much advantage the ultimate con-

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The Antiseptic Products Company

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Denver, Colorado

sumer derived from this depreciation must be left to conjecture. Chain stores and urban markets in competitive trade passed the major part of it along to the consumer, public eating-houses maintaining the same old price-scale. The whole list of wholesale carcass-beef values was 7 to 8 cents per pound lower than at the corresponding period of 1929. Despite this depreciation, it was a sluggish trade.

Butcher Cows Scarce

But for scarcity of butcher cows, the steer market would have acted even more discreditably. Unable to replenish coolers with the product of \$7 to \$8.50 cows, vendors of cheap beef were forced into \$8.50 to \$10 steers. Canning and cutting cows were wanted at \$4.75 to \$5.50, and the bologna bull market on a \$7 to \$8 basis was always healthy.

More Big Steers Would Have Helped Matters

The chief criticism of market conditions concerned yearlings and intermediate-weight steers, which were obviously out of line. Such conditions are invariably remedied, sooner or later, but not until supply changes. The stage was set for this market when cattle were laid in last fall, and, owing to a temporary surplus of big steers, feeders all but eliminated that type from their investment program. Results show the fallacy of mass-psychology. Had the May run carried 10 per cent more weight, distributive channels would not have been cluttered up with light beef, and supply would have been better balanced. Had feeders possessed more confidence in the market future, at least a portion of the yearlings thrown into the May market would have been carried along. Here again last year's marketing policy has been reversed.

Prices Showing Resiliency

A gratifying phase of May cattle trade was the promptitude with which prices rallied after bear drives. Killers were constantly on the alert to take off 25 to 50 cents, resorting to strenuous effort in carrying out that program. On the big run at Chicago on May 12, one of the large packing concerns was conspicuously absent in the bidding; on the next big run of May 26, two other packing concerns lay down; but on both

occasions it proved to be doubtful policy, as cattle cost more dollars immediately thereafter. Between bad buying and bad distribution, the market was hit hard and unnecessarily, as was demonstrated during the week ending May 24, when supply was equally distributed, the buying side had no opportunity to organize raids, and prices scored orderly advances.

Hog Market on a Stable Basis

Instability in cattle circles was in striking contrast to an orderly and stabilized hog trade. Supply was moderate, but competition by the coterie of big packers was always under control. As price-makers at Chicago—the basic market—the trio of national packers is out of the running. The big outfits invariably have enough hogs to start killing gangs, and unless competition develops between outsiders and small local packers, hog-shippers are out of luck. Rarely has average cost of packer and shipper droves worked far above the \$10 line, and when it dropped below \$9.90 the pendulum moved promptly in the other direction. It is possible that supply and demand have been evenly balanced, and, as hogs have paid well for the corn consumed, no serious criticism of market conditions has been heard, which is at least *prima facie* evidence that producers prefer steady to wildly fluctuating prices, even when the latter yield greater net returns. The spread in hog prices has been as narrow as that in cattle was wide, as there was at no time a large percentage of underweights, due probably to the fact that there has been a profit in converting corn into pork, and no incentive to market immature stock. Few heavy hogs, other than sows, have had to sell below \$9.75, and a large share of the entire crop has cashed at a range of \$9.90 to \$10.20. All of which accounts for an era of reasonably good feeling in swine-growing circles, minus grouches from packing sources. Hogs have shown a cutting profit right along; otherwise small packers and shippers would not have been such keen contenders for a share of the crop. Light stocks of lard and a moderate accumulation of meats have furthered harmonious conditions in this branch of the industry.

Lamb Advance Not Maintained

A burst of speed in the lamb market early in May was not maintained, the trade getting into a somewhat sloppy condition at the middle of the month. During the month Colorado feed-lots were depleted, and the major portion of the California spring crop went to the butcher. It marked the clean-up of one of the most disastrous feeding seasons in trade history. Between the promising opening and the last round, prices showed but little change, but at the middle of the month a level lower by about \$1 per cwt. was reached, attributed not to excessive supply, but to a non-receptive dressed market. Considering the heavy supply of lamb during the March-to-May period, however, the dressed market has acted creditably.

Wooled Stock on a Parity with Shorn

Early in May old-crop wool lambs advanced from \$9.50 to \$10 to an \$11 to \$11.50 basis, subsequently reacting to \$9.75 to \$10, or a parity with shorn lambs, for which there is scant precedent. Before the end of the month, fleece lambs of the old crop practically disappeared, and the end of the shorn-lamb supply was out. This gave weight a firm footing, 100-pound shorn stock selling up to the top.

California Movement Less Than Last Year

But for the California contribution, killers would have been in distress for a lamb supply late in May. As they made

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their contracts on a \$9 to \$11 basis at the coast, the season was profitable. Adding \$3 for running expense, Chicago cost was somewhat higher than current prices, but this handicap was more apparent than real, as they controlled the lambs in the first place, and California growers were contented with the outcome. Opening at \$12 to \$12.50, Chicago basis, California lambs lost a dollar, all of which was recovered at the month's end. The eastward movement of California new-crop lambs was about one-third less than that of 1929.

Supply of Native Lambs Deficient

Eastern, or native, spring lambs were anything but plentiful all through the month. Jersey City had a run during the final week, mainly from Tennessee, Kentucky, and Virginia, \$12.50 to \$13 taking the bulk. At the end of May there were indications of a supply gap, creating possibility of higher prices during June, or until the summer run from the Northwest gets under way.

STOCKER-BUYERS WATCHFULLY WAITING

J. E. P.

LITTLE CALF-CONTRACTING HAD BEEN DONE IN the Southwest up to June, and it is probable that trading will be deferred. A \$10.50 to \$12 market for fat yearlings has not been conducive to activity, or anticipation of next season's requirements. Yearling-developers have discovered that they replenished last fall at prices which look high at marketing time, and there is some doubt as to the basis on which killers will buy the bulk of the fat early-maturity cattle to go to market during the June-to-September period. A few yearlings under 1,000 pounds have been eligible to \$13, but \$11 to \$12 has taken the bulk on mixed bunches, with straight heifers at \$10.50 to \$11.50. If further depreciation develops, feeders will at least make an effort to acquire calves next fall considerably below 1929 prices. It is probable that when the crop of cheaper light cattle that has been cashing at \$9.50 to \$10.50 is out of the way, yearlings will get better action, as the product of these lower-grade cattle can be substituted for genuine baby beef.

Conditions in the southwestern cattle nursery, while not all that could be desired, are fairly satisfactory. Illuminating the situation down that way, C. A. Studer, the Anvil Park Hereford man of Canadian, Texas, writes:

"Most of the Panhandle is in its glory, but conditions are somewhat spotted in a physical sense. About 75 per cent of the area has had good rains, and cattle are looking sleek after losing their winter coat of hair; but the remainder of the area is dry—so dry that feeding will be necessary in some localities.

"Little or no trading is being done, as cattlemen have not become accustomed to new values. In recent years the entire calf crop has been contracted at this date, but I know of only a few deals in choice steer and heifer calves at \$45 per head.

"Many yearlings are being offered at \$10 per cwt. for fall delivery, but bidders are few. It is possible that a market will be made around \$9 for yearling past steers next fall, with heifers of similar quality around \$8.50, and mixed steer and heifer calves at \$9.50 to \$10.

"Few cattle were sold this spring on Kansas pasture account. Owners of twos and threes moved them to Kansas on their own account, yearlings remaining in the country. It will probably be necessary to move a considerable number of cattle next fall, either to clean up paper that bankers are averse to renewing, or to reduce loans."

This opinion typifies general conditions. Potential stocker-buyers are in waiting mood. Current business is

being done at a range of \$9.50 to \$10.50 largely, with an occasional trade in well-bred yearlings up to \$10.75. Feeders are permitting killers to take fleshy steers of the two-way type without opposition, and when they take an interest in light cattle they want them in thin flesh.

INTERPRETING FEEDERS' INTENTIONS

J. E. P.

DIVINING FEEDERS' INTENTIONS IS TANTAMOUNT to eliciting a reply to an interrogatory propounded to the Sphinx. Feeders may invariably be expected to reverse the previous season's performance; also to run counter to expectation.

Pick out a score or a hundred feeders on any market in the country, ask them their major problem, and 90 per cent will answer "replacement." Consensus of their opinion will be that fat cattle are high enough, and that stockers cost too much. In this opinion they—unconsciously perhaps—voice the protest of every buyer of raw manufacturing material against replacement cost.

Undoubtedly, and without danger of successful contradiction, this is the state of mind of the cattle-feeder. Since he tucked away a crop of steers at boom prices during the fall of 1928, he has been endeavoring to improve his strategic position. Last fall, smarting under big losses on heavy cattle, he made a violent switch to light weights, only to encounter trouble on the other lap, as profit margins this season have been made on heavy cattle. Now the attitude of the average feeder—meaning the great majority—is that, regardless of the weight, age, or quality of the cattle he handles, they must be acquired at less initial cost. He is tired of taking inventory losses. This does not mean that all the cattle fed out since the turn of the year have lost money, but margins have

Herd Bulls

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been dangerously narrow on the rank and file, and some have actually figured in the red. On the sharp breaks during May, profits were actually wiped out.

This means a sparring match over replacement values all through the summer and fall period. Feeders are handicapped by the facts that a scarcity of stock cattle exists, that they cannot get into competition with killers on fleshy steers without incurring risk, and that they are always in keen competition among themselves. Just how many young cattle would be required to restock grass east of the Missouri River, this deponent sayeth not, but such requirements are greatly in excess of recent or current supply. To get a grass bill, eastern pasturemen have been taking anything wearing a hide, both steers and cows, and, like Oliver Twist, have been always clamorous for more. It is a situation that ill conceals potential demand, which will be accentuated if nature creates even a normal corn crop.

Much ado has been made by statisticians and others concerning the somewhat liberal purchase of stock cattle at the central markets during the January-to-March period, but these figures indicate potential demand rather than a fully stocked condition. The fact that the huge direct movement from pasture to feed-lot during the fall of 1928 was not repeated in 1929, and that many of the cattle not taken then have been moving through the market gateways meanwhile, is ignored. Since March even the movement from market to country has been sharply curtailed, owing to slumpy fat-cattle conditions, and in the case of fleshy or two-way steers investment has been negligible. The bare, ill-disguised fact is that the country needs cattle, and should the beef market prove equal to a more creditable performance, a buying furore is not improbable as the time to snuggle into winter quarters works around.

Last winter's unsatisfactory experience with low-grade steers will put quality in better standing with beef-makers. Common cattle were a good feeding proposition at \$4 to \$5 per cwt., but in the scramble to get that type last fall prices got out of line and were unduly high. It is possible that, in the present switch to quality, this condition may be reversed. Practical certainty exists that feeders will not get into competition with killers on fleshy steers, as demand for cheap beef will exclude them from that game. Current trade is practically confined to light cattle, and there is a marked preference for well-bred yearlings. Unless prices get out of line, such cattle are usually the best investment.

Present indications are that replacement will be on a lower-cost basis than during the latter half of 1929, unless

the fat-cattle market picks up during the latter half of the current year. For one thing, the speculator appears to be excluded, for this season at least, and his presence in the trade is always a price-sustaining, if not a price-boosting, influence. Anathematized as the speculator has been, his interests have always been with the breeder rather than the finisher. Not that the breeder has always profited, as he has had a confirmed habit of letting the speculator pocket most of the velvet, but a speculator-controlled stock-cattle market invariably conceals trouble for the feeder. With the speculator out, the investment situation should at least be clarified.

It is probable that the fall replacement campaign will be deferred, unless feeders recede from their present attitude, which is tantamount to a demand for lower prices. As concessions at the pasture will be illogical, the bulk of the trading will be done at the markets. An influence on prices will be the attitude of western bankers in the matter of cleaning up or reducing loans.

If, as the majority of economists contend, the present movement of values is irresistibly toward lower levels, thus increasing the purchasing value of the dollar, feeders may have a voice in the determination of values, but the strategic position of the commercial grower is recognized, no surplus of young cattle is pressing on the market, and constant replacement will be imperative, if a market for roughage and coarse grains is to be maintained. The trend of stock-cattle investment is toward a year-round replacement program. It is possible that calf-buying at weaning time has been overdone, and that carrying a larger percentage into the yearling stage will be economic. From the standpoint of the average feeder, a yearling is the most useful animal.

Having experimented with big cattle, light cattle, good cattle, common cattle, and other subdivisions of the bovine species, feeders are taking stock and endeavoring to look around the corner. In this emergency, a few will go to growing their own cattle, but the great majority will depend on the commercial breeder for replenishment of feed-lots and farm pastures. Unless they change their habits, they will continue picking one kind of steers—invariably the kind that paid out the previous season. New tricks are not easily acquired.

SOUTHWESTERN PASTURES TO CONTRIBUTE LESS BEEF

J. E. P.

SOUTHWESTERN PASTURES, AS WELL AS THE grazing areas of Kansas and Oklahoma, will contribute considerably less beef to the season's grass supply than in 1929. Some difference of opinion and much contradictory evidence on this subject have been elicited, but the testimony is conclusive that tonnage will be lower. The army of Mexican cattle, brought across the line into Texas during the 1928 boom and sent north last spring to deluge the market with cheap product subsequent to August, will not repeat. The stragglers of that movement may show up, but will not exert a dominant influence on values, as was the case all through the gathering season of 1929, when owners, somewhat sagaciously, distributed them over the market map, but failed to evade inevitable loss.

Secretary Spiller, of the Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers' Association, has inspection figures from twenty districts, all but one of which indicate a reduced pilgrimage compared with 1929, and in the exceptional district the number will

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be no greater. In some districts the movement showed a substantial decrease, which will be reflected in the season's beef tonnage. Mr. Spiller's conclusion is that the movement was about 20 per cent less than last year. Early in the season, dry weather caused apprehension of a forced movement that would have swelled numbers, but timely rainfall averted it. The movement has been further curtailed on account of restricted purchasing by Kansas and Oklahoma operators; also by Texas owners holding some cattle back.

Mr. Spiller writes:

"The bulk of the run of cattle from Texas to Oklahoma and Kansas this year was aged steers. We formerly referred to fours and fives as 'aged cattle'; under new conditions we mean three-year-olds. In recent years the proportion of two-year-olds in this pilgrimage has been increasing, and they are so handled in Kansas as to reach market at practically the same weight as three-year-olds off grass. Few yearlings were moved to Kansas this year, and these from isolated sections where dry weather made it necessary. About 75 per cent of the steers moved from Texas to Kansas and Oklahoma pastures this year were representative of the type shipped for a number of years past."

LIVE STOCK AT STOCK-YARDS

APPENDED ARE TABLES SHOWING RECEIPTS, shipments, and slaughter of live stock at sixty-four markets for the month of April, 1930, compared with April, 1929, and for the four months ending April, 1930 and 1929:

RECEIPTS

	April		Four Months Ending April	
	1930	1929	1930	1929
Cattle*	1,066,396	1,146,398	4,173,973	4,072,835
Calves	577,923	605,748	1,982,073	7,962,687
Hogs	3,254,763	3,582,065	15,050,772	16,151,020
Sheep	2,229,576	2,011,920	8,086,629	6,960,660

TOTAL SHIPMENTS†

	April		Four Months Ending April	
	1930	1929	1930	1929
Cattle*	479,546	491,343	1,798,160	1,585,768
Calves	159,133	155,648	564,132	523,705
Hogs	1,279,783	1,277,148	6,018,342	6,008,719
Sheep	975,146	953,758	3,432,401	3,172,606

STOCKER AND FEEDER SHIPMENTS

	April		Four Months Ending April	
	1930	1929	1930	1929
Cattle*	218,594	266,309	768,263	677,242
Calves	36,036	25,952	126,311	72,564
Hogs	57,451	72,863	209,874	240,793
Sheep	133,543	210,180	459,269	634,195

LOCAL SLAUGHTER

	April		Four Months Ending April	
	1930	1929	1930	1929
Cattle*	591,176	636,833	2,316,259	2,429,438
Calves	424,328	447,099	1,419,183	1,434,187
Hogs	1,980,073	2,290,965	9,025,951	10,113,815
Sheep	1,277,767	1,050,598	4,647,324	3,768,112

*Exclusive of calves.

†Including stockers and feeders.

COMPARATIVE LIVE-STOCK PRICES

BELOW ARE FIGURES SHOWING PRICES ON THE principal classes and grades of live stock at Chicago on June 2, 1930, compared with May 1, 1930, and June 3, 1929:

	June 2, 1930	May 1, 1930	June 3, 1929
Choice (1,100 to 1,500 lbs.)	\$13.25-14.25	\$13.50-14.65	\$14.75-15.25
Good	12.00-13.50	12.00-13.75	13.75-14.75
Choice (1,100 lbs. down)	13.00-14.00	13.25-14.25	14.75-15.25
Good	11.75-13.50	11.75-13.50	13.75-14.75
Medium (800 lbs. up)	10.50-12.50	10.00-11.75	12.50-13.75

FED YEARLING STEERS:

Good to Choice	11.50-13.50	11.00-14.00	13.50-15.25
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HEIFERS:

Good to Choice	9.00-12.00	9.25-12.75	11.50-14.75
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COWS:

Good to Choice	8.00-10.00	7.50- 9.75	9.50-12.60
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FEEDER AND STOCKER STEERS:

Good to Choice (800 lbs. up)	9.75-10.75	9.75-11.50	12.25-13.25
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Common to Medium	8.00- 9.75	8.25- 9.75	9.75-12.25
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Good to Choice (800 lbs. down)	9.75-11.00	10.00-11.50	12.25-13.50
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Common to Medium	7.50- 9.75	8.00-10.00	9.75-12.25
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HOGS:

Medium Weights (200 to 250 lbs.)	10.00-10.50	9.75-10.20	10.40-11.10
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LAMBS:

Medium to Choice (92 lbs. down)	11.25-13.50	8.25- 9.60	14.25-16.50
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LOW LAMB PRICES LIKELY TO LAST A WHILE LONGER

J. E. P.

CLARIFICATION OF THE LAMB-FEEDING PROSPECT will require some time. Colorado and Nebraska have had the worst scorching in ten years, and will require time to catch their breath. Logically, speculation in new-crop lambs has been wholly suspended, with no prospect of activity. It will be up to the Corn Belt farmer-feeder to set the price-making pace, and he will not throw his hat into the ring until along in August. Nothing is yet known concerning the prospective supply of feeding lambs, although reports from some sections indicate that dry weather will insure plenty of thin stock at gathering time.

FOR SALE IN CARLOAD LOTS

Registered
HEREFORD
Two-Year-Old Bulls

BRED FOR THE RANGE

J. M. Carey & Brother
CHEYENNE, WYOMING

Established 1872

Incorporated 1908

Colorado bankers will have their hands full taking care of customers who were hit hard during the past season, in a financial sense. With respect to this element, they are in much the same position as the man holding a bear by the tail—they dare not let go. By carrying them on a much cheaper crop of lambs, they may find all or part of the money where it was lost. Commission men are in the same fix. Neither element will be in a position to take on new customers, the man who is not heavily in debt having scant prospect of getting feeding loans. One financier whose people were hurt remarked: "I must do all I can to help the lame ducks. Let the others sell their crops."

That the Corn Belt will take on lambs in large numbers, at a price, is more than probable. The composite price idea is around 8 cents, Chicago or Omaha basis, but it is possible it may come up, especially if the fat-lamb market does an encouraging stunt during the summer. Corn Belters were not hurt by last winter's feeding operations, and, having no burned fingers to remind them of recent recklessness, may ignore bearish opinion west of the Missouri River. The probability is that the Mississippi Valley will make the early market, followed by a Denver trade at prices depending on what happens previously at Omaha and Chicago, and the number of lambs available. If nature makes a large percentage of thin lambs, feeders will take advantage of their opportunity.

Colorado feeders have inserted their feeder-price peg in the 6-cent hole, and will hold it there if possible. In any event, there will be no shortage, the probability being that it will be a buyer's market right along. If Colorado's investment is substantially reduced from that of last winter, the excess going into the Mississippi Valley, all interests will be benefited, as the finished product will be strung out over a longer period. The last crop of fat lambs was bunched into the narrow February-to-April gap, overtaxing the capacity of distributive channels.

How excessive the trans-Missouri movement was is indicated by the fact that the January-to-May movement from northern Colorado, the Arkansas Valley, and the Scottsbluff section aggregated 10,163 carloads—an increase of 2,330 cars compared with 1929. In 1928 the movement was 7,540 cars from the same area. In this case, what appeared to be a marketing evil is readily traced back to the production sphere.

Speculating on lamb prices during the latter half of the year is futile. Now that the old crop of fed lambs has gone, and the bulk of the California spring crop is in, the making of a new price-book will ensue. At the beginning of June spring lambs were on a \$12 to \$13 basis, and may work higher before the main column of the new crop appears at the market threshold. The only certainties are that there will be plenty of lambs to go around, and that substantially lower prices than in recent years are inevitable.

**Painter
HEREFORDS**
We specialize in best
range bulls
JOHN E. PAINTER & SONS
Roggen, Colorado

HOLDINGS OF FROZEN AND CURED MEATS

BELOW IS A SUMMARY OF STORAGE HOLDINGS OF frozen and cured meats on May 1, 1930, as compared with May 1, 1929, and average holdings on that date for the last five years (in pounds):

Commodity	May 1, 1930	May 1, 1929	Five-Year Average
Frozen beef.....	57,212,000	51,442,000	43,810,000
Cured beef*.....	23,162,000	19,272,000	23,397,000
Lamb and mutton.....	5,191,000	2,533,000	2,123,000
Frozen pork.....	189,985,000	285,110,000	224,497,000
Dry salt pork*.....	110,939,000	185,580,000	154,948,000
Pickled pork*.....	411,473,000	452,868,000	435,041,000
Miscellaneous.....	83,043,000	88,314,000	70,507,000
Totals.....	881,005,000	1,085,119,000	953,948,000
Lard.....	104,881,000	184,748,000	141,462,000

*Cured or in process of cure.

HIDE PRICES AT LEAST ARE STABLE

J. E. P.

HIDE VALUES FLUCTUATE LITTLE FROM WEEK to week. The futures market in New York rarely shows signs of life. Packers are continually in an Oliver Twist attitude, asking for more, occasionally getting half a cent per pound higher than the last sale, followed by a period of dormancy. Continued heavy imports of hides, in anticipation of a tariff, have not improved trading conditions. Eastern markets have not reflected occasional activity at Chicago.

The best that can be said of hide prices is that the market is steady and restricted. Leather demand is spotted. Industrial depression has put a crimp in shoe-factory output, and receivership for a big St. Louis shoe concern, at the instance of a Chicago bank, has not improved matters. That the shoe-making industry is excessively "facilitated" is obvious, more attention having been paid to production than to consumption. As is always the case when pay-rolls are curtailed, cobblers are busy. The obvious way out is reduction of shoe cost to somewhere near the pre-war basis—a level that raw materials have already reached. The doubtful expedient of semi-annual sales to clear shelf stocks and reduce warehouse accumulations is not good business.

Packers always have hides for sale, hold them in a quest for another half-cent, and finally make a clearance at tanners' figures. With so much foreign raw material available, tanners hold the whip-hand. What effect a tariff impost will exert is purely conjectural. Merely getting hides on the dutiable list will get us nowhere. The leather-manufacturing interest faces no shortage of raw material, and if such were the case, substitutes are available. Gears have displaced leather belting, upholstering by the automobile industry is on a textile basis, and other outlets for leather have been restricted. Harness-making has been all but killed by motors, both in pleasure and industrial spheres, general adoption of the tractor by agriculture being the last slap. Even the recently popular leather coat has disappeared.

Hides are low enough, but this furnishes no assurance that the decline has run its course. All the leather concerns are steadily losing money—a condition that does not herald hide-trade improvement. Enough capital has been sunk in tanning operations during the past half-decade to capitalize a string of national banks, most of this loss falling upon gullible investors. Recent propaganda of the prosperity of the shoe-making industry appears to have been mendacious;

and still the public is paying war prices for shoes. Manufacturers, in common with all users of raw materials, are intent on depressing leather cost, which is not conducive to a healthy situation.

Packers have been making efforts to get 15 cents for heavy native steers; last sales of heavy Texas and butt-branded steers have been made at 14½ cents; light native cows have sold at 13 cents; all-weight country hides are difficult to move at 9½ to 9¾ cents for 48-pound average stocks; 60-pound-and-up cows and steers are moving at 9 to 9½ cents; country bull hides are quoted at 7 to 7½ cents; horse hides, at 3½ to 4 cents.

Lack of a differential between native and branded hides gives the market an out-of-line appearance, which killers are trying to correct to the extent of half a cent in favor of native steers.

South American markets are firm. Last sales of frigorifico steers were at \$34.75, equal to 14½ cents, c. i. f. New York. Frigorifico extremes sold at \$34, equal to 14½ cents.

In the Pacific coast market, March-April take-off sold at 11 cents for steers and 9½ cents for cows. Aprils alone sold at 11½ cents for steers and 10 cents for cows.

That the market is in a rut is indisputable. At that, all the bearish factors appear to have been discounted. If the tanning and manufacturing branches were in a stronger strategic position, the prospect would be more luminous.

INTEREST IN WOOL REVIVING

J. E. P.

WOOL HAS PICKED UP. SIGNS OF REVIVING interest were evident late in May. Prices developed strength, and, on a scoured basis, sales were made that indicated advances of 2 to 3 cents per pound above the previous low level. Manufacturers were on the lookout for packages suited to their requirements, and selling on asking prices became easier. Foreign markets continued displaying strength, and, as shearing in the West expanded, dealers displayed more activity.

However, surface conditions are still somewhat unsettled, and there is some difference of opinion concerning the soundness of foreign markets on the basis of the latest rise.

At the recent London sales, North America was a sparing buyer, the European continent taking the bulk of the offering. British buyers had been out of the market, owing to the textile strike, but recently have taken on cross-breds, creating an impression that settlement of the labor trouble impends. Some of the Antipodean markets have shown an advancing tendency; others are reactionary. Japan has been a free buyer in Australia; America doing little.

Any recent improvement in domestic wool values reflects foreign advances rather than stimulation of domestic business. Goods trade is dull—a fact indicated by a decrease in domestic wool consumption of 31,000,000 pounds during the first quarter of the year, compared with 1929. This merely reflects general business conditions and restriction of buying power. A favorable indication is that mills have been under the necessity of visiting the market to care for even small orders, which would not be possible if they were not on a hand-to-mouth basis. Wool is not plentiful at eastern concentration points, the probability being that, as the new clip arrives and a selection becomes available, better action will be developed. It is a reasonable assumption that the bulk of the wool controlled by the new "co-op" will be strongly held, so that, with foreign values advancing, scant prospect of further domestic recession,

and recognition of a probability of further upturns the latter half of the year, a more satisfactory set of trading conditions will be developed.

Between dealer and "co-op" competition, the new western clip should move to eastern storage promptly. "Co-op" competition has prompted dealers to acquire considerable western wool outright at 21 to 22 cents, or 9 to 11 cents lower than a year ago.

California has been selling considerable wool at 18 to 20 cents for light shrinkage, and 16 cents for average wools shrinking 65 per cent. At Kerrville, Texas, eight-months wools have been taken at 23 to 25 cents, and twelve-months at 25 cents, or about 70 cents clean basis, landed at Boston. In the fine and fine-medium wool districts of the intermountain states the range is 18 to 22 cents, depending on character, grade, and staple. These wools are costing buyers 65 to 70 cents clean basis, laid down at Boston. In Oregon, sales are reported at 18 to 19 cents; in Utah, at 18 to 22 cents; in Wyoming, at 19 to 22 cents; and in Montana, at 21 to 22 cents. In the bright-wool states, prices have firmed up, dealers paying 22 cents for good Delaine clips in Ohio, and 20 to 21 cents for medium clips.

PACKAGED MEATS IN TRADE-MARKED BOXES

MERCHANDISING CONSUMER CUTS OF FRESH meat in trade-marked boxes, with transparent paper covers, is another step in the effort to find the most satisfactory and economical method of placing fresh meats in the hands of the consumer, we are told in the *National Provisioner*. This plan has been adopted by the Hygrade Food Products Corporation, in co-operation with a number of shops in New York City.

The meats are cut at the packing plant, packaged in the boxes, and delivered to the markets in refrigerated trucks. In the shops the cuts are held in refrigerated combination storage and display cases. The food store handles the meat without capital outlay, as the cases are contracted for on a rental basis, the packer installing them without extra charge.

All meats are government-graded, each retail cut showing the stamp.

REGISTERED HEREFORD CATTLE

T. E. MITCHELL & SON
Tequesquite Ranch
ALBERT, NEW MEXICO

TRADE REVIEW

FOREIGN

FOREIGN COMMERCE SHOWS REDUCED TOTAL

DECREASES IN BOTH EXPORTS AND IMPORTS marked the foreign trade of the United States for April, as well as the four months ending April, 1930, compared with the corresponding periods of the previous year. The reduction in each case amounted to more than 20 per cent. The figures follow:

	April		Four Months Ending April	
	1930	1929	1930	1929
Exports.....	\$334,000,000	\$425,264,000	\$1,467,794,000	\$1,844,889,000
Imports.....	308,000,000	410,666,000	1,200,675,000	1,532,823,000
Excess of exports.....	\$ 26,000,000	\$ 14,598,000	\$ 267,119,000	\$ 312,066,000

EXPORTS OF MEAT PRODUCERS

EXPORTS OF MEAT, MEAT PRODUCTS, AND ANIMAL fats from the United States for the month of April and the four months ending April, 1930, as compared with the corresponding periods of the previous year, were as below (in pounds):

BEEF PRODUCTS

	April		Four Months Ending April	
	1930	1929	1930	1929
Beef, fresh.....	251,717	206,835	995,537	1,068,939
Beef, pickled.....	976,930	632,058	3,304,986	3,089,062
Beef, canned.....	131,338	233,747	869,111	921,299
Oleo oil.....	3,749,061	6,648,771	18,429,381	23,456,944
Totals.....	5,109,046	7,721,411	23,599,015	28,536,244

PORK PRODUCTS

	April		Four Months Ending April	
	1930	1929	1930	1929
Pork, fresh.....	1,435,309	691,980	8,533,265	4,490,886
Pork, pickled.....	2,633,519	2,933,263	10,956,792	15,232,337
Bacon.....	7,979,088	10,224,816	45,736,290	45,510,518
Cumberland sides.....	414,242	667,759	1,784,337	1,863,817
Hams and shoulders.....	12,415,752	13,857,342	41,869,605	43,858,131
Wiltshire sides.....	447,960	311,726	2,369,565	1,349,509
Sausage, canned.....	153,361	201,297	530,050	777,567
Lard.....	50,045,005	59,143,615	255,823,031	285,776,050
Lard compounds.....	230,160	259,412	609,178	1,216,270
Neutral lard.....	1,155,554	1,024,195	5,766,875	7,294,931
Totals.....	76,909,950	89,315,405	373,978,988	407,350,016

Cuba Increases Import Duties

Duties on many meat products imported into Cuba have been advanced, effective May 17, 1930. The rate on fresh beef has been raised from 2.5 to 3.6 cents a pound; on mutton, from 2.2 to 3.6 cents; on fresh pork, from 2.5 to 3.6 cents; on bacon, from 2.2 to 5.4 cents; on hams and shoulders, from 2.9 to 5.8 cents; and on lard, from 1.4 to 3.2 cents, with an additional surcharge of 10 per cent each year for the five years beginning July 1, 1931.

CATTLE IN COLOMBIA

IN THE CATTLEMAN OF FORT WORTH, TEXAS, for May, 1930, Garvey L. Haydon, of Mackville, Kentucky, writes of "Cattle of Colombia." From this article we quote as follows:

"Colombia is not a cattle country in the sense the term is applied to the western parts of the United States, although there are a number of important cattle-producing districts (Bogota, Cauca Valley, and Boyacas). The district in the Cauca Valley is the most important today.

"With few exceptions, no attempt has been made to improve the stock of Colombia. Aberdeen-Angus cattle were imported from Jamaica to Bogota, and also into the Cauca Valley. Ayrshires were imported a few years later. These cattle did not become acclimated, and, as a result, died before any real benefit could have been derived from them. Several years later a few Indians (Brahmas) were imported. These cattle soon became acclimated, which was probably due to the likeness of conditions to their native country.

"In recent years Mr. Walter T. Eder, of Cali, in the Cauca Valley, has been the leader in the development of the cattle industry. Mr. Eder has imported 'Indian' cattle in large numbers, and has used them in his own herd with remarkable results. At present his herd is composed largely of 'Indian' blood. The neighboring ranchers, after seeing the results which Mr. Eder has accomplished, have begun to look to him as their leader. He furnishes them with breeding stock from his own herd, which is far above the average of the herds of the other ranchmen.

"In August, 1929, Mr. Eder imported ten Shorthorns and one Hereford from Kentucky. These cattle became acclimated very well, and Mr. Eder is expecting wonderful results from them. Another importation was made in July, 1929, by another ranchman of the same district. This importation consisted of Charolais from France. The form or body conformation of this latter breed is about what we expect to find in a good beef animal of this country. The color is white, with a reddish, flesh-colored skin on the muzzle and about the eyes. These characteristics suggest Shorthorn blood, and, in fact, in the development of this breed the French did use Shorthorns. The mature bulls weigh around 1,800 pounds, and the females proportionately less. The animals that I saw of this breed impressed me as being weak in constitution, and from this fact I do not believe that they will do well in Colombia.

"The native cattle of Colombia are about what one would expect to find in the southern parts of the United States. The colors are about the same as we know in this country, the Jersey or Brown Swiss color predominating. A fully grown native steer at five years of age will weigh around 800 pounds. A full-grown native and 'Indian' cross will weigh about 1,000 pounds at three and a half to four years of age. The native bulls weigh about 1,200 pounds at maturity, and the native cows around 900 pounds. The 'Indian' blooded cattle weigh more than the natives.

"The management of the range herd is not all that it should be. On most of the ranches I feel safe in saying that absolutely no care is bestowed on the animals. The cows graze and drop their calves out in the open, and, if an animal dies, its death is always attributed to some pest. Colombians being great believers in Providence, it is only natural that they should leave the care of their stock to the Lord.

"As an industry, dairying is almost unknown in Colombia. On Mr. Eder's ranch the foreman in charge of the cow and calf division is the dairyman. The cows give an average of two quarts of milk a day, and do not give that unless the calf is tied to them (usually at the front leg) while the milk is being drawn.

"The method of selling cattle has not as yet reached the

stage of development that we are used to in this country. The cattle are not driven to a stock-yard to be sold, for there are none. Instead, the local butcher goes out to the point of production and buys. There being no competitive buyers, there is no need of an auctioneer to receive the bids. The owner rides out with the butcher, and they bargain—so much per head instead of per pound, for scales are not available. The average native fat bullock will bring from 40 to 60 pesos (1 peso equals 97 cents) at five and six years of age. The 'Indian' cross that Mr. Eder has will bring around 80 to 100 pesos. This is at about three to four years of age.

"Judging from the number of cattle in Colombia and the few that are exported, I would imagine that the Colombian people are heavy beef-consumers. The number of cattle has increased in the last few years, but as yet the exportation has not increased. However, beef cattle are the chief article of trade between one department and another and between one district and another.

"Some of the beef is dried and salted for export trade, this being about the only way they can export it, since packing-houses have not as yet come into common use. The meat that is cured in Colombia is killed and consumed the same day. Until recent years the beef sold at one price, but today they have two prices, the hindquarter and loin selling for 24 cents per pound, and the remainder for about 18 cents per pound. The government has encouraged packing-house projects, but at present there are very few.

"The main export product of cattle is hides. During the last few years three-fourths of the hides produced in Colombia have been exported to the United States. It is the desire of the Colombian people to export the beef carcass, but until the packing industry is developed they can do very little."

RUSSIA STUDYING AMERICAN BEEF-BREEDING METHODS

A N EMISSARY FROM THE SOVIET GOVERNMENT, A. J. S. Popov, professor at the Zootechnical Institute in Moscow, has been in this country studying methods of cattle production for the National Beef Cattle Association of Russia. This organization is a government institution, with vast stretches of grass land, native cattle, and ample financial resources.

The native cattle of Russia, according to Mr. Popov, as quoted in the *Kansas City Daily Drovers' Telegram*, are rather small and do not develop for the market until they are five or six years old, at which age they seldom exceed 1,000 pounds in weight. Most of the animals are kept for dairy purposes. The peasants, with farms averaging less than ten acres, are not in a position to breed cattle commercially, and the government is fostering a plan of collective production on a large scale.

It is the purpose of the government to introduce the best methods of cattle-breeding and feed-lot management found abroad, so far as they are suitable to Russian conditions. A number of purebred bulls have been imported from England, and it is understood that the National Beef Cattle Association is in the market for several thousand Shorthorn, Hereford, and possibly Aberdeen-Angus bulls of American breeding.

NOTES FROM FOREIGN LANDS

Argentine Corn Crop Larger

An official estimate places Argentina's 1929-30 corn crop at 253,175,000 bushels—an increase of 9.3 per cent over the previous season.

Argentine Corned Beef in United States

From 420,000 cases in 1926, exports of corned beef to the United States from Argentina rose to 1,650,000 cases in 1929. This is equivalent to about 450,000 head of cattle.

NEW FISH HATCHERIES TO BE ESTABLISHED

CONGRESS ON APRIL 17 PASSED A MEASURE appropriating \$3,350,000 for a five-year expansion program of the Bureau of Fisheries. The bill, which was sponsored by the Isaac Walton League of America, provides for the establishment of thirty new fish-culture stations, twenty-seven of which will be for the propagation of game fish. The hatcheries are to be distributed throughout the states bordering on the Atlantic, Pacific, Gulf of Mexico, and Great Lakes.

The commercial catch of fish in waters of the United States is approximately 3,000,000,000 pounds a year, though per-capita consumption is only about 15 pounds. Compared with this, other countries consume the following amounts of fish:

Newfoundland	100
Japan	58
Sweden	52
Norway	44
Denmark	39
Portugal	37
England	35
Canada	29
Netherlands	29
Germany	18

Slaughterings in Argentina

During the year 1929 the following numbers of live stock were slaughtered in Argentina (1928 figures in parentheses): For export—cattle, 2,057,877 (2,100,217); sheep, 4,834,659 (4,358,786); hogs, 142,114 (74,313); for local consumption—cattle, 733,709 (729,681); sheep, 440,944 (381,506); hogs, 288,542 (269,597).



Prepaid Prices: Qt., \$1.00;
Half Gal., \$2.00; Gal., \$3.00; 5-Gal. Can., \$12.50.

\$3.75
Postpaid anywhere in the U. S.
Fully guaranteed. Order from
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**For calves
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Supplied in Four Sizes. Send today for illustrated booklet explaining the many features of advantage.

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A New High-Quality Dehorning Paint and Protective Dressing

Our own make. Has disinfectant, styptic, adhesive, and fly-repellent qualities. Also unexcelled for cuts and surface wounds, castration incisions, sores, etc. Keep a bucket handy and prevent costly losses.

**WILL C. BARNES
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Cups out the horn button. Quick and humane. No horn stubs grow out. Cutting blades of tempered tool steel. Money back if not satisfied.

Genuine Imported

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These instruments do the work successfully. Safe and sure. No bleeding or bad after-effects. Let us send full information.

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Denver Fort Worth El Paso
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THE BULLETIN BOARD

NEW CORNSTALK PRODUCT

New uses for cornstalks and corn-cobs have been developed by the United States Bureau of Standards, in co-operation with the Iowa State College. "Maizolith" (literally meaning "corn stone") is a product, resembling hard rubber, manufactured from these substances by boiling them in a bath of caustic soda and drying under high heat. The material possesses a high compressive and tensile strength, as well as resistance to electricity. This latter quality makes it especially suitable for contrivances requiring electrical insulation. Maizolith is produced in colors ranging from tan to a deep ebony, and is capable of taking on a high polish. It may be used, according to the Department of Commerce, in the manufacture of noiseless gears, bushings, washers, refillable fuses, rings, disks, handles, knobs, pistons, wheels, rollers, and a number of other mechanical devices.

It is now estimated that more than 3,000 separate chemical materials can be produced from cornstalks.

REAL-ESTATE VALUES LOWER

Farm real-estate values as of March 1, 1930, average a decline of about 1 per cent below the preceding year, the Bureau of Agricultural Economics announces. Maine, Connecticut, Wyoming, Colorado, New Mexico, and Oregon each show a small increase in values

for the year, while declines are reported for all other states.

The bureau's index of real-estate values is based upon the average of the pre-war years, 1912-14. It shows that values reached 170 per cent of the pre-war average in 1920, but that by 1925 they were only 27 per cent above pre-war, and that since then the downward trend has continued, although not so rapidly.

The index for March 1, 1930, is placed at 115 per cent of the pre-war average, compared with 116 in 1929, 117 in 1928, 119 in 1927, and 124 in 1926.

HOW TO OUTRUN A TORNADO

In level, open country, says the Weather Bureau, an automobile often affords the best means of protection from tornadoes, except where a well-constructed cellar is available.

"Tornadoes occur chiefly during the day, and thus in open country they can often be seen for several miles. Though by far the most violent of all storms, the tornado covers, at any one moment, a relatively small area. While the winds blow at enormous speed around its center, the progressive movement of the storm as a whole is quite moderate, averaging about forty miles an hour, and in very few cases reaching sixty miles an hour.

"Most tornadoes move toward the northeast, a few toward the southeast, and the rest, with almost negligible exceptions, in some other easterly direction. Moreover, the path generally varies but little from a straight line, so that

the direction in which a storm is seen to be moving is likely to be the one that it will follow until it dies out.

"From these facts it follows that, when a tornado is sighted several miles away, a person generally has time to escape by taking a course at right angles to its path, and the automobile is obviously a valuable adjunct for escape, provided there is a road leading in the right direction."

One positive proof that a storm is a tornado is the elongated, funnel-shaped, or cylindrical cloud dangling from the sky toward the earth. This cloud is not always seen, but the general appearance of the sky in the direction of a tornado is usually very striking. The clouds are thrown into a wild turmoil and are strangely colored—jet-black, greenish, or purple where dark, but often mingled with steamlike grays and whites. A terrifying roar, which has been compared to thousands of railroad cars crossing a bridge, may be heard at considerable distance.

CO-OPERATIVE BEEF CLUB

A fresh-beef club, composed of thirty farmers in the neighborhood of Arthur, Illinois, recently celebrated its twentieth anniversary. Each of the farmers, on a definitely assigned date between May 1 and December 1, has bound himself to furnish a beef animal which will net 300 pounds of dressed meat. One animal is slaughtered each week, and every member weekly receives 10 pounds of fresh beef, but gets the same cut only twice during the period.

If a beef fails to produce the stipulated 300 pounds, the farmer having furnished it must make up the difference in cash, to be distributed among those not receiving their allotted 10 pounds. On the other hand, if an animal nets more than 300 pounds, the owner receives the difference in cash.

IMPORTANCE OF ICE-CREAM INDUSTRY

Probably few dairy farmers realize how much of their milk goes into the manufacture of ice-cream, said O. E. Reed, chief of the Bureau of Dairy Industry, speaking over the radio on May 19. About 6,000,000,000 pounds of milk are utilized annually in the United States in the commercial manufacture of this food, which was once regarded as a luxury, but which now holds a well-established place in the American diet.

There are about 4,000 ice-cream factories in this country today, which in 1928 manufactured more than 1,750,000,000 pounds, or about 348,000,000 gallons,

Something New—A Marcel on Cattle

Automatic Currying & Dipping Machine Co.,
Pender, Nebr.

Dear Sirs:

I have used one of your machines, and am well pleased with the results.

Mr. Fred Sullivan, of Conklin Brothers Commission Company of Chicago, was out here last summer, and he asked me how I came to have a marcel on my cattle. I took him over and showed him my machine, and he said he would sure boost it to all of his shippers for it made a wonderful difference in the looks of the cattle.

I consider the machine worth \$100 of any man's money.

Yours truly,
(Signed) MRS. T. E. FLEMING & SON.

Write today for prices and descriptive literature

Automatic Currying & Dipping Machine Co.

805 Third Street

Pender, Nebraska



We invite investigation.
Write to any farmer or
feeder who is a user of
the Automatic Currying
and Dipping Machine.

of ice-cream. Into this quantity went the product of approximately 1,335,000 dairy cows, or 209,000,000 pounds of butterfat, besides 243,000,000 pounds of sugar and 5,000,000 pounds of food gelatine.

As showing the progress of this American industry, which had its origin about the time of the Revolution, it is sufficient to point out that in 1905, when ice-cream was mostly made on the back porch, per-capita consumption was 1.04 gallons a year, while in 1928 it was 2.9 gallons, or nearly three times as much.

SMITHFIELD

What is generally conceded to be the largest meat market in the world, the Smithfield Market in London, recently celebrated its sixty-first anniversary. An idea of the market's capacity may be gained from the fact that 4,000 tons of beef, the equivalent of 60,000 sides, can be displayed at one time. More than 180 firms are doing business in one building.

Stocks of meat and poultry handled at Smithfield for the metropolis during 1929 were 1,043,506,000 pounds, compared with 1,053,161,000 pounds in 1928, or a decrease of 0.9 per cent. Of the total quantity, British and Irish produce constituted 26.3 per cent, Dominion 19.4 per cent, and Argentine 44.8 per cent. Argentina supplied 71.2 per cent of the beef, Great Britain and Ireland 18.1 per cent, and the Dominions 3.5 per cent. Of mutton and lamb, New Zealand furnished 45.1 per cent, Great Britain and Ireland 23 per cent, Argentina 22.3 per cent, and Australia 7.7 per cent. Of pork and bacon, Great Britain and Ireland furnished 69.7 per cent, the Dominions 6.7 per cent, and "other countries" 23.6 per cent.

A MARKET DICTIONARY

Probably it happens that even an experienced live-stock shipper, old in the business, at times is puzzled as to the exact meaning of some of the descriptive terms employed by market writers or encountered at the stock-yards. For the sake of interpreting this trade vernacular for the benefit of the average man, the *National Live Stock Producer* has compiled a list of words and phrases more or less commonly used in connection with the selling of live stock. We quote below some of the terms applied to cattle:

Baby beef—Steers fifteen months old or under that have been under forced feeding from birth; 950 pounds and under.

Bob veal—Flesh of an unborn calf from slaughtered cow; prematurely born or very young calf; unmarketable.

Bow-wow—Small, stunted, aged steer with no quality, unsuited either for beef or feeder purposes; utilized sometimes as canners or cutters; same as "tripe."

Butcher cattle—Trim stock, either cows, steers, or heifers, carrying good flesh; popular with the city butcher trade.

Canners—Animals too thin for beef, but suitable for canning purposes; such cattle are known also as "stripers" at packing-houses.

Coasters—Texas cattle raised in countries bordering on or near the coast of the Gulf of Mexico.

Cold-blood—Animal that does not take on flesh readily.

Colorados—Cattle raised in Colorado.

Condemned—An animal that government or other inspectors have pronounced unfit for food.

Counterfeit—Descriptive of cattle of good color, giving impression of good breeding that they do not possess.

Crip—Animal that has been hurt or crippled.

Cutters—Animals one grade better than canners, but yet not carrying enough flesh to class as beef.

Dakotas—Cattle raised in either North Dakota or South Dakota.

Deacon—Young calf; a veal; a calf too young for food.

Directs—Stock not offered for sale; stock purchased by local packers in the country or at other markets, and shipped direct to them for slaughter.

Dogey—Small, common-bred cattle native to the southern states; sometimes called "yellow-hammers."

Dogs—Very poor, inferior animals; canners.

Downer—Animal that for any reason cannot keep on its feet; crippled.

Feeder—Animal with sufficient growth and flesh to make it suitable for placing immediately in the feed-lots to be finished for market.

Free-martin—Heifer born twin with a bull; imperfectly sexed, and barren as a rule.

Governments—Animals thrown out by government inspectors.

Handy-weights—Beef cattle averaging around 1,100 to 1,300 pounds.

Hard feeder—Animal that cannot be fattened profitably.

Hold-overs—Stock not sold on the day of arrival; left-overs; stale receipts; the opposite of fresh receipts.

In-between kinds—Stock that does not easily fit into any one class; for example, cattle that are neither one thing nor the other, almost too fleshy for feeders and hardly good enough for beef; if corn-fed, they might be described as "warmed-up" or "near-beef."

Infusion—That which is introduced, added, or mixed; for example, there may be an infusion of Shorthorn blood in ranch steers.

Jack-pot—Mixed cattle, usually of common quality.

Killing cattle—Cattle in condition to be profitably slaughtered.

Kosher—Clean, lawful, as kosher meat from animals slaughtered according to Hebrew or Talmud law.

Long-fed cattle—Cattle that have been on corn or other concentrated feed a sufficient time to make finished beef.

Mongrels—Scrubs; animals with unknown or poor ancestors.

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We are offering our fine herd of registered Shorthorn cattle for immediate sale, consisting of 170 choice cows and heifers in breeding lots, mated to our excellent herd sires. Large percentage of vigorous calves at heel.

Forty long yearling heifers included in offering.

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Priced at \$125 to \$200, with calves thrown in.

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Several fine herd bulls (one imported) included in offering.

Special price if one buyer takes entire herd. All cattle T. B. tested.

Inspection of herd solicited. Ranch on main highway, 23 miles east of Fresno.

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Carload of registered Shorthorn bulls of serviceable age for range use. Rugged type, heavy-boned, plenty of scale. Dark reds and roans. Priced at \$175 per head. Ranch 23 miles east of Fresno.

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E. E. McCARTNEY & SONS
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Elm Creek, Nebraska

Montanas—Cattle raised in Montana.
Nellies—Canners.

Nurse cows—Milch cows that furnish additional supply of milk for feeding calves (not their own) to give better flesh and finish.

Panhandles—Cattle raised or matured in the Panhandle section of Texas.

Pen-holder—Animal left in a pen to hold it and keep other cattle from being turned into it.

Rannies—Common southern calves of poor quality.

Running—Going to market, especially in rather large quantities.

Sandhill cattle—Cattle raised in western Nebraska.

Shambles—Slaughter-house; meat-packing plant.

She-stuff—Cows and heifers.

Short keeps—British term for cattle that correspond to what we call "feeders."

Slunk—Prematurely born animal; unmarketable; bob veal.

Spayed heifer—Heifer unsexed by removal of ovaries.

Springer—Cow due to freshen.

Stag—Male that has been used for breeding purposes before castration.

Standardized cattle—Cattle raised by a breeder who has a reputation for producing uniform-quality cattle.

Stock bull—Bull that has been used for breeding purposes.

Stock calf—Calf with blocky form of body, usually with at least one ancestor belonging to one of the beef breeds, and purchased at about weaning time in the fall to be matured into a fat yearling six or twelve months later.

Stock cattle—Young steers or cows, light and thin, and not yet matured; individuals are known as "stockers."

Tail-end—That which is left after the more desirable individuals have been sorted out of a drove.

Thin—Animal very poor in flesh, regardless of weight.

Through stock—Stock received and counted in the day's run, but not offered for sale, being consigned to other points.

Throw-outs—Animals of any kind thrown or sorted out of a bunch of stock because of some defect.

Warmed-up—Thin cattle that have been

on corn feed just long enough to show feed effects, but not long enough to be desirable beef.

Weigh-back—Animal sold and weighed up with other stock, but cut out and weighed back to the seller because of some imperfection or injury.

Yearlings—Cattle beyond the calf stage and under the two-year-old class.

Yellow-hammer—Dogey.

STATES' CROP VALUATIONS

Twenty-two principal crops harvested in the United States in 1929 had a combined value of \$7,678,049,000, as estimated by the Department of Agriculture. This is a slight increase over 1928, when the same crops were valued at \$7,611,278,000. Of the individual states, Texas is still in the lead, though with a considerably reduced production. Iowa is second, and Illinois third. The three tail-enders, as might be expected, are Nevada, Delaware, and Rhode Island.

The forty-eight states rank as below, in thousands of dollars (000 omitted):

State	1929	1928
Texas	\$524,458	\$645,474
Iowa	502,605	490,934
Illinois	412,705	431,691
Nebraska	334,562	315,419
Minnesota	313,810	280,179
Kansas	301,813	371,436
California	295,704	267,711
North Carolina	265,151	276,001
Ohio	249,750	231,197
Wisconsin	241,008	236,353
Missouri	235,118	254,577
Oklahoma	226,790	266,450
Mississippi	216,520	179,471
Pennsylvania	209,809	188,904
Georgia	209,803	186,365
Indiana	204,211	200,151
New York	196,778	177,726
Kentucky	186,341	185,741
Michigan	183,941	192,169
South Dakota	183,126	157,939
Tennessee	182,961	162,631
North Dakota	181,326	235,863
Arkansas	180,155	172,757
Alabama	171,927	161,306
Virginia	153,678	141,295
Washington	136,797	121,979
South Carolina	130,841	117,856
Louisiana	122,025	115,574
Colorado	104,462	86,441
Idaho	96,819	85,632
Montana	88,818	117,804
Maine	83,529	40,014
Oregon	82,905	77,651
West Virginia	57,651	56,754
Maryland	53,175	51,520
Florida	52,937	56,133
Arizona	36,755	36,516
New Mexico	36,136	28,097
New Jersey	33,923	29,409
Wyoming	33,428	28,187
Massachusetts	32,899	29,588
Connecticut	32,332	29,235
Utah	30,353	29,599
Vermont	28,950	27,027
New Hampshire	14,142	12,632
Nevada	11,730	10,100
Delaware	11,447	11,633
Rhode Island	2,857	2,587

RANCH FOR SALE

5,000-acre ranch on Big Powder River, 32 miles northeast of Arvada, Wyo. 600 acres meadow land, of which 200 acres is alfalfa. Three artesian soft-water wells. Six-room modern house. Natural gas from one of artesian wells for all heat, cooking, and lighting purposes. Bunk house, 150-foot cattle shed, 100-foot hog shed, barns, garage, etc. Pastures fenced and cross-fenced; all well watered with springs. Priced to sell.

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700 acres good meadow hay-land, Good water right. Near range.
4,000 acres on the open range—controls range in six townships.

D. H. GROVE, Eagleville, Modoc Co., Cal.

GOVERNMENT WATCHING QUALITY OF FEEDS

To assure the farmer that the so-called "commercial" live-stock feeds which he buys are correctly labeled and not adulterated, the Food, Drug, and Insecticide Administration of the Department of Agriculture last year made a survey which resulted in a number of seizures for misbranding, short weight, and protein deficiency in feeds shipped interstate.

A large quantity of feeds is sold annually for consumption in the animal industries, and the buyers are vitally interested in the guaranteed analysis of the products. Practically all states require that feeds sold within their borders must bear labels showing the percentage of protein and the ingredients they contain. A feed high in protein usually is more valuable and more expensive than one low in protein. In the case of most feeds, the protein content is the main factor in determining price. Naturally the buyer of feeds depends upon the labels. Hence it is imperative that these be true.

The Food, Drug, and Insecticide Administration recently took several actions against a product branded "peanut meal" which was in interstate trade. This product was only the germ and red skins of the peanut ground up. Peanut meal is peanut meats after most of the oil has been pressed out. The genuine meal is a most excellent stock feed, containing from 36 to 43 per cent protein. The misbranded product which was being sold and offered for sale as peanut meal contained less than 20 per cent protein.

In its work of protecting the farmer in his feed-buying, the Department of Agriculture makes inspections and examinations of all kinds of feedstuffs found in interstate trade. Of these, cottonseed meal is one of the most important. As a result of inspections of cottonseed meal made in the course of the survey, a total of 472,400 pounds in interstate trade was seized—mostly on the ground that the percentage of protein was incorrectly stated. Some of the violations of the law were unintentional, and were due to faulty analytical control at the mills.

WOOL-PRODUCTION FACTORS ANALYZED

Underlying the production of wool are scores of factors. For years the great range-sheep industry has sought the best methods of breeding sheep to produce wool, lamb, and mutton in the quantity and of the quality to meet most fully the current market demand. This intricate

problem has been solved in large measure through a combination of research methods set forth in Technical Bulletin 85-T of the Department of Agriculture. Under the title "Factors That Influence Wool Production with Range Rambouillet Sheep," a trio of investigators in the Animal Husbandry Division of the Bureau of Animal Industry discuss the relative importance of each factor and summarize the research results for the benefit of practical sheepmen. The investigators are D. A. Spencer, J. I. Hardy, and Mary J. Brandon.

The results are based on three years of investigation and on analyses of several thousand samples taken from approximately 1,500 fleeces. The factors studied included: age of sheep; weight of fleece; weights of moisture, grease, and dirt; length of staple; fineness of fiber; character of fleece; density of fleece; face-covering; skin folds; body weight; and mutton conformation. The investigators utilized advanced statistical methods, and sorting and tabulating machinery, for correlating the masses of figures, amounting to approximately a million separate determinations.

One of the most significant findings was the fact that with range Rambouillet sheep "good mutton conformation may have some advantages and substantially no disadvantages in efficient wool production." Ewes that averaged "good" (about 85 per cent perfection) in mutton condition as yearlings produced fleeces that averaged slightly the longest in staple.

The experiments showed also that "ewes free from heavy face-covering or wool-blindness yielded slightly heavier fleeces," and that "no important advantages were found as a result of heavy covering of wool over the face of the ewes." This topic has been widely discussed among sheep-breeders and exhibitors. From a utility standpoint, more wool on the face thus appears to mean less production from the entire animal. The explanation probably lies in the greater difficulty in finding feed on the range when the eyes are partly covered.

One of the most important influences on wool production is the age of sheep. "As sheep became older," the bulletin states, "the moisture in their fleeces had a very slight tendency to increase, the weight of the grease per fleece increased, the weight of dirt increased, the length of the staple became shorter, and the character of their fleeces had a slight tendency to become less choice." The fleeces from three-year-old ewes averaged the heaviest.

As the fineness of wool in fleeces increased, there was a slight tendency

toward decrease in weights, both scoured and unscoured, and in moisture and dirt. Improvement in the character of the fleeces was associated with longer staple, a little heavier weight of clean wool, a trifle less grease and dirt, and a slightly finer fiber.

A result of particular interest to breeders is the influence of folds in the skin on the production and character of wool. Pronounced folds have been obtained in several breeds by selection and breeding, thereby increasing the surface of skin. The results of the investigations described in the bulletin showed that "freedom from folds was correlated with greater length of staple, a trifle greater fineness of fiber, somewhat lighter unscoured fleece weights, a very slight reduction in clean-wool weights, considerably less grease and dirt, and less density."

WORLD'S RAILWAY MILEAGE

Average miles of railway throughout the world per 10,000 population in the year 1925 numbered 4.2, according to an analysis by the Bureau of Railway Economics, as quoted in *Bradstreet's*. The report shows further that there was an average of 1.6 miles of railway for every 100 square miles throughout the world.

The total railway mileage throughout the world was 764,238 miles, of which the United States, including Alaska, had 250,900 miles. The total mileage in all of Europe was 238,867. The entire North American continent had 316,644 miles of railway at the end of 1925, or 21.9 miles for every 10,000 population. The United States mileage amounts to an average of 23.6 miles of line for every 10,000 population. Canada had 40,093 miles, or an average of 42.8 miles for every 10,000 population. Persia has the smallest amount of railway mileage per 10,000 population of any country in the world, its average amounting to one-tenth of 1 mile. China comes next, with two-tenths of 1 mile of line. Nigeria is third, with six-tenths of 1 mile.

The following table summarizes the outstanding facts of the railway mileage of the world:

Continent	Miles of Line	Miles per 100 Sq. Miles	Miles per 10,000 People
North America...	316,644	3.7	21.9
South America...	56,884	0.8	8.1
Africa	37,481	0.4	3.3
Asia	84,252	0.5	0.8
Australia	30,110	1.0	39.1
Europe	238,867	5.6	5.1
Total	764,238	1.6	4.2

First-Class Service.—An evangelist was exhorting his audience to take heed of the wrath that was to come.

"I warn you," he thundered, "that

there will be weeping and wailing and gnashing of teeth."

At this point an old lady in the gallery stood up, frantically waving an umbrella.

"Listen to me, sir!" she shouted. "I have no teeth."

The evangelist was used to interruptions of all kinds, and had his answer ready.

"Madam," he replied, "teeth will be provided."—*Answers (London)*.

No Extras.—To a Jewish former service man an acquaintance remarked: "So you were in the army, Ikey?"

"Oh, I vas in the army," was the proud response.

"Did you get a commission?"

"No; only my vages."—*Humorist*.

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ROUND THE RANGE

RANGE AND LIVE-STOCK REPORT FOR MAY

Ranges.—Range feed had been greatly improved by rains late in April, says the Denver office of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. Prospects for late spring and summer feed were good, except in areas where recent rains had not overcome long periods of drought. Ranges in Montana, Wyoming, Colorado, Idaho, Utah, and Nebraska were early, with a generally good supply of feed and ample moisture, except for dry spots in southern Wyoming, southern Colorado, and south-central and southwestern Idaho. Range feed in Arizona and New Mexico was good, with a few dry spots in east-central and southeastern New Mexico. Moisture had relieved the dry situation in Oregon and Washington, but

more rain was needed to insure later feed. The long drought and short feed situation in Texas and Oklahoma had been broken by late April rains, and feed would improve rapidly. More moisture was needed in western Texas to overcome the long drought. California temperatures were favorable, but rainfall had been limited. Range feed was plentiful, but water and summer feed prospects were poor where the rainfall had been light.

Cattle.—Cattle had gained in flesh with early and better feed, and were generally in good condition, except that in Texas and Oklahoma they were a little thin, with a few thin ones in parts of Montana and North Dakota. With better feed, cattle in these areas should make rapid gains. Cattle in the other states had wintered in good condition, and calf-crop prospects were generally good, except where short feed and severe winter conditions had been hard on cows. There had been little trading, and but few cattle had changed hands in the Southwest.

Sheep.—Sheep had come through the winter in much better condition than a year ago, except in Texas and North Dakota. Breeding ewes had wintered well in Idaho, Washington, Oregon, Nevada, Utah, Arizona, New Mexico, Wyoming, Colorado, and western South Dakota. Early lambing had been good, and late lambing conditions were favorable. The winter and spring had been hard on sheep and goats in Texas, and there had been some loss of lambs, and a shorter lamb crop than last year. Montana sheep had come through well under rather adverse conditions, and there were a few more dry ewes than last spring. California sheep had improved with better feed. There had been no contracting of feeder lambs.

CORRALLING WILD HORSES

Herds of wild horses infesting the territory where the states of Idaho, Oregon, and Nevada join are being rounded up for shipment to packing-houses, where the meat will be packed for supplying feed to fox farms. It is estimated that there are around 40,000 such horses in this section.

Most of the horses probably will go to Phoenix, Arizona, where a plant has been constructed for slaughtering them. Two packing-houses in Illinois have offered a cent a pound on the hoof for all the animals that can be captured. There thus appears to be a ready market for this class of live stock, though perhaps not a very profitable one.

TEXAS CATTLEMEN TO MARK BIRTHPLACE OF ASSOCIATION

The Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers' Association is planning to erect a monument under the oak tree in the town of Graham, in Young County, where, more than half a century ago, the organization saw the light of day. A certain sentimental glamour attaches to this old oak, as it was not by a matter of chance that its cool shade was selected for the birthplace of the association. In those days of free and easy manners, before judge and juries impeded the progress of justice, a tree with a stout limb that would not break under a weight of less than two hundred pounds was a valuable asset on any cattle ranch. It seems but fitting that the old oak, with its dramatic memories, should be honored as a survivor of the time when cattle-rustling in that part of the country was liable to prove even a less healthy game than it is today.

Regular Service.—Inquisitive Old Lady—"Where did those large rocks come from?"

Tired Guide—"The glaciers brought them down."

Inquisitive Old Lady—"But where are the glaciers?"

Tired Guide—"They have gone back after more rocks."—*Wall Street Journal*.

Not Necessary.—"Brother Jones," said the deacon, "can't you-all donate some small contribution to de fund for fencing in the cullud cemetery?"

"I dunno as I can," replied Brother Jones. "I don't see no use in a fence around a cemetery. You see, dem what's in there can't get out, and dem what's out sho' doan wanna get in."—*Washington Post*.

Held Only Temporarily.—The roar and rattle of the express as it rushed through the wayside station was followed by a yell and a crash.

The porter-clerk-signalman-station master dashed out of the office and saw a young man sprawling among overturned milk-cans, while a little boy gazed on interestedly.

"What happened?" asked the railway official. "Did he try to catch the express?"

"Yes," murmured the boy, "but it got away again."—*Tit-Bits (London)*.

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To Members of the American National Live Stock Association

DURING the past four years the National Live Stock Producers Association has been indebted to **THE PRODUCER** for the privilege of conveying to its readers a message of national co-operative live-stock marketing.

Since members of the National Live Stock Producers Association have unanimously affiliated with the National Live Stock Marketing Association recently created, this is our farewell message. We want to take this opportunity of expressing the appreciation of the officers, directors, and members of the National Producers to the readers of **THE PRODUCER** and the members of the American National Live Stock Association for their contribution to co-operative marketing and their support of the Producers' co-operative marketing agencies.

Privileges far greater than those formerly available may now be obtained in the new Marketing Association, the possibilities of which will be realized just to the extent that live-stock producers lend their support. We know that the support will not be lacking, and that the American National Live Stock Association will be numbered among those that will make national co-operation an outstanding success in marketing cattle, hogs, and sheep.

THE NATIONAL LIVE STOCK PRODUCERS ASSOCIATION

with the following marketing agencies:

Producers Commission Association
Indianapolis, Indiana
Producers Commission Association
Kansas City, Missouri
Producers Live Stock Commission Association
National Stock Yards, Illinois
Peoria Producers Commission Association
Peoria, Illinois
Producers Co-operative Commission Association
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
Producers Commission Association
Sioux City, Iowa

Producers Co-operative Commission Association
Buffalo, New York
Chicago Producers Commission Association
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Michigan Live Stock Exchange
Detroit, Michigan
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